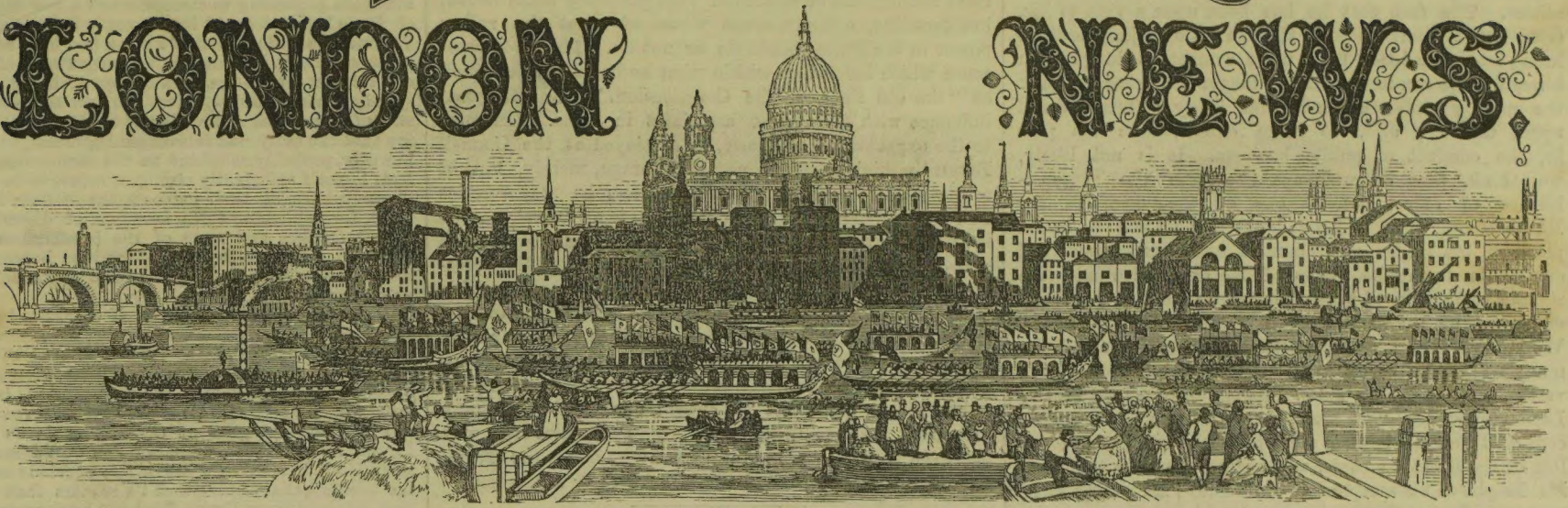


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INTERNATIONAL YACHT-RACES AT NEW YORK: THE LIVONIA AND THE DAUNTLESS IN A GALE—"A MAN OVERBOARD!"

THE RIGHT HON. JOHN BRIGHT.

Our readers, we are sure, of whatever political party they may be, will have heard with satisfaction that the health of Mr. Bright has been sufficiently re-established to admit of his being able once more to give attention to political affairs. The fact that he has been upon a visit to Mr. Gladstone is itself evidence that, in his own judgment, at least—and who could be a more competent judge than himself?—he can now, without danger of bringing back the malady under which he has lately suffered, dwell upon, talk of, and, to some extent, take his part in, the conduct of public business. It is not likely, we think, that he will again assume the responsibilities of office, but, as one of the members for Birmingham, there is little doubt that he will be in his place in the House of Commons next Session, and will contribute from the stores of his experience and the ripened catholicity of his sentiments to what is generally expressed by the phrase, "the wisdom of Parliament." We believe that his reappearance in the House will for many reasons be hailed with cordial acclamations by a vast majority on both sides. As Sir Robert Peel said of Lord Palmerston, "we are all proud of him;" so we are confident that the leading men, both on the right and the left of the Speaker's chair, will regard the restoration of Mr. Bright to his seat, and to the duties that belong to it, with a feeling of thankfulness and pride.

We speak not this of the right hon. gentleman as a party man. It is true that no member of the House or the Cabinet has taken a more decided course in political warfare, or has uttered stronger or more pungent things in regard to those whom he has confronted than he has done. But for some time before ill-health compelled his temporary retirement from public life, Mr. Bright was regarded as belonging rather to his country than to the party with which he had been accustomed to act. The changes for which he had consistently laboured during the earlier part of his career had most of them been effected, and the apprehensions which they excited in the minds of his opponents had been proved by actual experience to be groundless. So far as the policy he from time to time urged upon Parliament had been adopted, it had received more or less the acquiescence of both the two great parties in the State. Nobody doubted his great ability. Nobody but was glad to hear his manly and massive oratory. The time had passed away since even his antagonists entertained a suspicion of the purity of his patriotism or of the disinterestedness of his aims. Advancing years, bodily suffering, and increasing experience having softened down his political temper, his later efforts in the advocacy of any great movement were distinguished by a tone of dignity and conciliation which was singularly impressive. No wonder that the abrupt retirement of such a man from a sphere in which he was so distinguished an ornament should have occasioned universal regret, or that even those who least liked his policy should have deplored the physical break-down of its foremost advocate.

There is a felt want in the House of Commons of that service which Mr. Bright, of all living statesmen, is just now, perhaps, best qualified to render—that, we mean, of a supremacy of moral authority—or perhaps we might more correctly say of personal influence—which, unconnected with official life, can command confidence to no small extent on both sides. It must be owned that during the last Session the habits of Parliamentary warfare sadly degenerated. How this happened we need not attempt to explain. That it did happen, and that it produced lamentable results, is sufficiently notorious. The frequent repetition of the scenes and occurrences which characterised the conflict of parties last Session would go far to undermine the stability of Constitutional Government. Whether Mr. Bright's presence in his place would have prevented that manifestation of Parliamentary recklessness, we will not presume to determine. We are quite confident, however, that his voice would have been lifted up in stern, but not unkindly, remonstrance against practices calculated to bring government by party into contempt; and we are not sure that both sides of the House would not have listened to his rebuke with respect and with advantage. Be this, however, as it may, we anticipate from his reappearance in the House of Commons a somewhat graver tone in its proceedings. The right hon. gentleman, acting as an arbiter, is usually calm and self-possessed, weighty in his utterances, suasive in his bearing. He has a moral authority which, when used for the purpose of soothing exasperation, removing misunderstandings, and lessening the shock of party collisions, perhaps no other member of the House of Commons can use with the like effect. On party subjects, of course, he would be regarded as a party man; but in matters affecting the dignity, the reputation, the character, the utility of the House itself, Mr. Bright's counsels would be received with greater deference than those of any other statesman. We earnestly trust that, should any occasion arise next year to call for his intervention on behalf of these ends, it will be found that he has so much of the confidence of all parties that a few words of wisdom dropped from his lips will have the effect of restraining the eagerness of party spirit from transgressing the bounds beyond which liberty is apt to become license.

There is another sphere within which Mr. Bright's restoration to health may be of advantage. His late colleagues in the Cabinet may receive from him wholesome, and perhaps not altogether unneeded, advice, not so much as to the general line of policy they may pursue,

but as to their manner of pursuing it. The tactics of haste and impatience did not find favour with him when he was officially connected with the Government. He has always inclined to the expediency of doing one thing at a time, and doing it well. He is not fond of mere refinements or novelties. He generally takes broad, business-like, common-sense views of what the ruling power in the State should do or not do. He has a reverence which keeps him within what he has often described as "the old lines of the Constitution." He has great influence with his former associates in office. Contrary to the expectation of many, he displayed at the Council Board the high qualities not of courage, merely, but of sobriety and candour. Those qualities he may exercise still to the benefit of the public. He is a Liberal, but he is known to be conservative in his Liberalism. He is bold and direct, but he is not impractical; nor, when the necessity for it is apparent, does he stiffly reject all possible compromises. Perhaps his intercourse with Mr. Gladstone at the present moment may make itself felt in its results next Session. On the social topics of the day he may have offered sound and valuable suggestions. At any rate, the public will be glad that he should once again occupy a prominent position in political life, and exert the vast influence he possesses in guiding to right issues the several questions which present themselves for early settlement.

THE INTERNATIONAL YACHT-RACES.

The series of races off the harbour of New York, sailed by Mr. Ashbury's schooner-yacht *Livonia* against successive American competitors, from among the yachts of the New York Yacht Club, to win back for Great Britain the Queen's Cup, which the yacht *America* carried off twenty years ago, excited great interest on that side of the Atlantic. It was arranged that three races should be sailed over the usual regatta course of the New York Club, which is from the Quarantine Station, on Staten Island, round the light-ship off the entrance to the lower harbour, and then back again. Three other races were also to be sailed over an open sea course, twenty miles out from the light-ship and back again. In case of a tie, the *Livonia* winning three of the six matches, there was to be a seventh race over the open sea course. The New York Club was to nominate, on the morning of each race, the yacht with which the *Livonia* was to compete. The first race was on the 16th ult., the American yacht chosen being the *Columbia*, a schooner of 206 tons, with 2 ft. more breadth of beam than the *Livonia*, and carrying above 7000 square feet of canvas in her mainsail, foresail, and jib. The *Livonia*, drawing 5 ft. more water than the *Columbia*, which is furnished with a centre-board under her keel, was at a great disadvantage in smooth water, the wind being very light. The *Columbia* beat her, therefore, by 27 min. The same yacht was again selected on the 18th to sail against the *Livonia* in the open sea course. Here also the *Columbia* was successful, coming in first by 10 min. The draught of this vessel is only 5 ft. 6 in. aft and 2 ft. 6 in. forward, without her centre-board; but when her centre-board is let down it draws 22 ft. Mr. Ashbury had from the first protested against the nomination of a centre-board vessel, but the New York Club had disallowed his objection. The third race was sailed on the 19th, over the regatta course; the *Columbia* was again matched against the British yacht, but met with some disasters to her rigging and steering gear, and was beaten by a quarter of an hour. For the fourth race Mr. Gordon Bennett's yacht *Dauntless*, which is a keel boat and has sailed at Cowes, was selected by the club; but her owner agreed with Mr. Ashbury that they would first sail two private matches against each other, under special regulations made by themselves, the prize being a fifty-guinea cup. The course was from Sandy Hook Light-Ship twenty miles to windward, and then to return; and there was to be a time allowance in favour of the *Livonia*, as the smaller vessel. The first of these two matches was won by the *Dauntless* on the 21st. The second was attempted to be sailed on the 25th; but while the two yachts were towed by two steamers out of the harbour to their starting-point at Sandy Hook, a strong breeze from the east, almost a gale, encountered them with such force that the *Livonia's* hawser parted. The *Dauntless* was also cast off by the steamer which had her in tow. The steamers, when near the light-ship, turned back to the harbour for safety, and left the two yachts pitching violently under reefed mainsail and jib. In their company was the tug *Anna*, which was to be posted there as a stake-boat. It was about noon, and four or five men on board the *Dauntless* were out on the jib-boom, stowing the flying-jib, when suddenly a tremendous wave swept two of them off into the sea. The yacht was not at that time making much headway against the tide. Life-buoys were instantly cast overboard, and a boat was lowered, in which a seaman pulled rapidly towards the spot, 200 yards astern, where one of the two men was struggling in the water. He was rescued just in time; but the other man, Lucas Murray, of St. John's, was never seen to rise, having, probably, been struck by the bow of the vessel and killed or stunned, in his fall from the jib-boom. After searching for him in vain, the *Dauntless*, as well as the *Livonia*, returned to Staten Island, and the race was given up. Mr. Ashbury has signified his intention to claim the Queen's Cup. Our illustration is from a sketch by Mr. Charles Gregory, of West Cowes.

The female lace-dressers at Nottingham struck for 25 per cent advance of wages and fifty-four hours labour per week. The masters conceded all the time and half the money, and the majority have returned to work.

A new cattle market, built at the expense of the borough, was opened, on Wednesday, at Leicester. The site, which is nearly two miles from the town, covers between seventeen and twenty acres, and when the abattoirs and offices connected with it are completed, will have cost from £25,000 to £30,000. The market and abattoirs are connected with the Midland Railway by means of sidings; while extensive cattle docks have been constructed close to it, at the cost of the Midland Railway Company.

In the memoir of William Wilberforce that accompanied our engraving of his portrait it was mentioned that he was induced by Thomas Clarkson, in 1787, to join the committee previously formed for the abolition of the slave trade. The names of the first members of that committee were Granville Sharp, William Dillwyn, Samuel Hoare, George Harrison, John Lloyd, Jos. Woods, Thomas Clarkson, R. Phillips, John Barton, Jcs. Hooper, James Phillips, and P. Sansom, all but three of whom belonged to the Society of Friends. These men were earlier labourers in the cause than Wilberforce, who undertook its Parliamentary conduct.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Nov. 23.

Rumours of Bonapartist plots, more or less absurd in character, are again beginning to circulate, and a few days ago the whole of Paris believed for at least twenty-four hours that General Valentin, the late Préfet of Police, had been arrested by order of his successor, M. Bénédict, recently Préfet of the Loiret, and of Orleanist tendencies, on a charge of being privy to a conspiracy having for its object the overthrow of the Republic, and, of course, the restoration of the Empire. It is needless to say that the story was false from beginning to end. M. Thiers, however, probably as a hint to the Bonapartists that he now feels himself sufficiently strong to refuse to be trifled with, has suspended two of their journals, the *Avenir Libéral* and the *Pays*, for publishing false accounts of disturbances between French soldiers and some of the inhabitants of Ajaccio, in Corsica. A day or two since, too, the bureau which used to issue the necessary sanction for the appearance of new journals was also closed.

After all, it seems possible, if we are to believe a reporter of the *Journal des Débats*, who recently interviewed the President of the Republic at Versailles, that Pius IX. may yet take up his abode in France. M. Thiers, after deprecating any interference on the part of the Government, is stated to have intimated that if the Pope decided to leave Rome he would find a French frigate at Civita Vecchia to convey him to France, and that the Château of Pau would be assigned him as a residence. Moreover, a day or two previous to this interview, the *Constitutionnel* informed its readers that a despatch had been received from Count Harcourt announcing the intention of the Pope to leave Rome on the presentation in the Italian Parliament of the Ministerial bill relative to the religious bodies in Rome, and this statement has not been contradicted.

The question as to the gradual renewal of the Assembly and the appointment of M. Thiers as President for life still forms a subject of discussion. The project has received the support of M. Littré, of the Institute, and a member of the National Assembly, who has written a letter in its favour, which is attracting considerable attention.

We are at length getting over the difficulty of obtaining small change. The notes of the Comptoir d'Escompte were issued on Friday, and, though at first looked upon with some mistrust, they are now being taken more readily, in consequence of its having been officially announced that they will be received by the Treasury and the Bank of France. Small coin, too, which had been hoarded for the sake of the premium, is beginning to reappear as the notes get into circulation.

M. Gambetta has made a long political speech at St. Quentin, at a banquet celebrating the resistance of that place to the Germans on Oct. 8, 1870. He declared that a real Republic was the only Government which could regenerate France, and maintained that the only way for her to retrieve her place in Europe was to improve and strengthen her internal position. He also declared himself strongly in favour of a dissolution of the present French Assembly.

The negotiations for the modification of the Treaty of Commerce with England have been suspended, and the question is to be submitted to the National Assembly. It appears that the English Government especially objects to the proposed increase of duties on cotton twist.

On Saturday the court-martial gave its decision in the case of the persons accused of the assassination of Generals Thomas and Lecomette. Verdagner and seven others are condemned to death; one of the prisoners is sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for life, and various sentences have been passed on ten others. The remainder are acquitted.

The Committee of Pardons has held several sittings during the last few days, but absolute secrecy is maintained respecting the result of its deliberations. It is rumoured, however, that the sentences of death passed on Rossel and Ferré have been confirmed, and that the Committee has been equally severe with regard to the Marseilles Communist prisoners, the consideration of whose cases had been postponed for several days, at the request of M. Thiers, for the production of further evidence.

Humbert, the editor of that infamous print the *Père Duchesne*, has been sentenced by the third Court-Martial to hard labour for life; and Vermeschand and Vuillaume have been condemned to death in contumaciam. The Court-Martial is now occupied with the trial of the individuals accused of complicity in the demolition of M. Thiers's house.

M. Thiers, in a letter to M. Jules Janin congratulating him upon his election to the Academy, expresses a hope that the Assembly, when it meets, will transfer its sittings from Versailles to Paris. This is very generally looked upon as a declaration of the intentions of the Government to propose such a transfer.

SPAIN.

Yesterday week the Cortes almost unanimously decided to take into consideration Senor Ochoa's motion for the re-establishment of convents, and afterwards rejected, by 173 votes against 118, a motion declaring it inopportune to debate the vote of censure against the Ministry. These two defeats of the Government were followed, first, by the prorogation of the Cortes, and then by the resignation of the Malcampo Cabinet. In this emergency the King sent for the Presidents of the Chambers, and had a long interview with them. It is believed that the present Cabinet will continue in office, but several modifications are expected.

ITALY.

The King arrived at Rome on Tuesday, and was received by Prince Humbert, the Ministers, the members of the Municipality, and the National Guard. There was an immense crowd on the way to the palace, and much enthusiasm was exhibited. The city was decorated with flags.

The Emperor of Brazil, as well as the Russian Grand Dukes Michael, Nicholas, and George, and the Grand Duchesses Anastasie and Alexandrovna, has arrived at Naples.

HOLLAND.

After three days' debate, the Lower House at the Hague has, by 39 votes against 33, passed an amendment for abolishing the post of Ambassador to the Pope.

GERMANY.

The German Parliament, on Thursday week, passed all the estimates for the Foreign-Office Department. The raising of Ambassadors' salaries, which formed one of the items, was defended by Prince Bismarck, who drew attention to the increased claims upon the representatives of the new Empire. The new Imperial Coinage Bill passed through the Reichstag on Saturday. Amendments were inserted to the effect that worn-out coins should be withdrawn at the expense of the Imperial Exchequer, and that inferior silver should not be coined. A resolution was adopted calling on the Imperial Chancellor to lay a final coinage bill before the House next Session, based on the principle of the Imperial Mint being

bound to coin the gold coins of the Empire, likewise for private individuals. The Minister declined to give any promise on the matter. On Monday the House sanctioned the introduction of the North German Confederation law for military service into Bavaria. The necessary moneys for the Alsace-Lorraine State railways were likewise voted. The second reading of the Navy Estimates was passed on Tuesday. In the course of the discussion the War Minister informed the House that the Imperial Government merely intended to establish a navy of second rank.

At the opening of the Baden Diet, on Tuesday, the Grand Duke said that it had become his duty to renounce some of his rights for the good of the Fatherland. He added that, notwithstanding increase in expenditure, there would be no increase of taxation.

A serious explosion took place last Saturday at a military laboratory near Coblenz, by which two persons were killed and several injured.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

Count Beust has issued a circular to the representatives of Austria abroad announcing his resignation. He says that the Emperor has relieved him of his duties in the most gracious manner, and appointed him Ambassador in London, and that his withdrawal from office is due to purely personal reasons, utterly unconnected with the home or foreign policy of the monarchy. Count Beust then refers to the success of his policy during the five years that he has held office, and says that he is able to bequeath the fruits of that policy to his successor, whose path he has smoothed and rendered easy. In conclusion, Count Beust thanks the Emperor for allowing him to take some repose, of which, he says, his health stands in need after so many party struggles and such heavy responsibility. Count Beust is paying his farewell visits in Vienna previously to leaving for London at the end of this week.

Count Andrassy has issued a Circular Note to the diplomatic representatives of Austria abroad, in which he emphatically declares that the foreign policy of Austria under the new Ministry will remain unchanged.

We learn from Pesth that the newly-appointed Minister-President, Count Lonyay, in his inaugural speech at the sitting of the Diet, on Thursday week, pointed to the constitutional laws enacted in consonance with the Austro-Hungarian compromise, as the ground on which the Ministry must rely and on which further salutary reforms will be developed. The Minister, therefore, asked for the confidence of a strong and united majority in the House.

Prince Anersperg, who is charged by the Emperor with the task of constructing a new Cis-Leithan Cabinet, on Tuesday submitted his programme to the chiefs of the Constitutional party, and obtained their approval of it. It is expected that several members of the party will accept seats in his Ministry.

In consequence of the refusal of the Bohemian Diet to elect representatives to the Imperial Parliament, a proclamation has been issued and promulgated in Prague decreeing immediate direct elections.

TURKEY.

Sir Henry Elliott, on Saturday last, offered to the Sultan the congratulations of the British Government upon the reforms effected by the new Ottoman Cabinet and those now in course of execution.

AMERICA.

The Russian Grand Duke Alexis arrived at New York on Sunday morning, after a stormy passage, from Madeira. His reception, on Tuesday, was of a very imposing character. Ten thousand soldiers were under arms, and the populace exhibited great enthusiasm. His Imperial Highness proceeded to Washington, and was presented to President Grant on Thursday.

Mr. Chester Arthur has been appointed customs collector for New York, vice Mr. Murphy, resigned. The Mayor has appointed Mr. Green controller, vice Mr. Conolly, resigned.

Lord Tenterden has been appointed her Majesty's agent at the Alabama Claims Arbitration Court, which will meet at Geneva. A rule of the Claims Commission has been amended.

CANADA.

A telegram from Toronto, on Wednesday, states that the troops sent to reinforce Fort Garry have arrived. Telegraphic communication has been established with Manitoba.

Three cases of Asiatic cholera have proved fatal in a village near Halifax. The disease had been introduced by the German steamer Franklin.

An abstract of the Census returns has been issued. The total population of the Dominion of Canada, exclusive of British Columbia and Manitoba, is 3,484,924, showing an increase of 12.79 per cent in round figures. Ontario has 1,600,000 inhabitants; Quebec, 1,200,000; New Brunswick, 285,000; and Nova Scotia, 387,000.

BRAZIL.

The Emancipation Act has been unanimously accepted by the planters, and the Government continues to receive congratulations from all parts of the empire in respect thereto.

The Bombay papers continue to publish very sad accounts respecting the famine in Persia.

The next mail for New Zealand, via San Francisco, will be despatched from London on the evening of Thursday, Dec. 14.

Hussein Khan, formerly Ambassador at Constantinople, has been appointed Grand Vizier to the Shah of Persia.

According to a New York telegram, all Mexico is in a state of revolution, the army is disaffected, and the Government is paralysed.

A magnificent statue of the Virgin, in massive silver, valued at 30,000*l.*, has been sent to the Pope by the Spanish Roman Catholics.

The *Times of India* states that the Sir Donald McLeod memorial is to take the form of a yearly gold medal and purse for proficiency in Oriental classics and English, to be competed for by scholars of any institution in the Punjab.

The Mirzapore, with the Eclipse expedition under Mr. Lockyer on board, began her passage through the Suez Canal on the 8th, and arrived at Suez at noon on the 10th. After leaving Malta on the 4th the weather was very fine, and the members of the expedition took advantage of it to test their instruments. It was thought that the party would reach Ceylon on the 25th inst.

On Wednesday the Marquis of Ripon distributed the prizes to the Ripon Rifle Volunteers.

The weekly returns of metropolitan pauperism continue to show a large decrease compared with previous years. Last week the total number of paupers was 117,393, of whom 34,164 were in workhouses, and 83,229 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in 1870, 1869, and 1868, this was a decrease of 17,858, 22,531, and 18,245 respectively. The total number of vagrants relieved was 1119, of whom 825 were men, 226 women, and 68 children under sixteen.

THE CHURCH.

PREFEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Addison, John Cramer, to be Vicar of Ashendon-with-Dorton, Bucks.
Butt, James Acton; Vicar of Weston, Herts.
Cass, W. A.; Vicar of Burford, Oxfordshire.
Cavell, H. T.; Vicar of St. Jude's, Southwark.
Collard, John Marshall; Vicar of St. Paul, Highmore, Oxon.
Hayward, H. B.; Rector of Whinstone, Gloucestershire.
Lewis, Daniel; Vicar of Llangennech, Carmarthen.
Porter, G. R.; Domestic Chaplain to the Duke of Northumberland.
Pridham, G.; Vicar of East Tilbury, Essex; Vicar of West Harptree.
Rowland, C. B.; Vicar of Pillerton Hersey, Warwick.
Stansfield, E.; Vicar of Rustington, Sussex.
Tennecliff, William; Vicar of St. Peter's, Earl's Heaton, Dewsbury.
Tyas, R.; Vicar of West Harptree; Vicar of East Tilbury, Essex.
Vesey, F. G.; Honorary Canon Ely Cathedral.
Vickers, R. W.; Vicar of Pishill, Oxfordshire.
Watson, H. S.; Perpetual Curate of Water Orton, Warwick.
Wilkinson, William; Honorary Canon in Worcester Cathedral.

St. Saviour's Church, York, was reopened on Tuesday, after undergoing extensive interior reparations and decorations.

The Bishop of Exeter consecrated, on the 16th inst., a new church in the village of Sheldon, six miles from Honiton. Mr. John Hayward was the architect.

The Bishop of Rochester has appointed the Rev. Peter Goldsmith Medd, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of University College, Oxford, Rector of Barnes, to be his Examining Chaplain.

The Old Testament Company of Revisers resumed their labours on Tuesday, and will continue their session till the end of next week. They start from Exodus, chap. xix.

The fine old parish church of St. James, Colchester, was reopened on Thursday, after a thorough restoration. The Bishop of the diocese preached the morning sermon.

At a Yorkshire Church Conference, on Thursday week, Lord Cathcart complained that clergymen did not recognise the fact that they were public servants, and that, being so, they must be controlled by the State.

The Church of St. James, Nutley, Sussex, which has been enlarged by the addition of a north aisle and a vestry, under the direction of Mr. W. Maynard Shaw, architect, was reopened, on the 10th inst., by the Bishop of Chichester.

The Bishop of London opened the new schools of St. James's, Pentonville, on Monday afternoon, after service in the church, at which his Lordship preached. On Tuesday his Lordship consecrated the new Church of All Souls, Walworth; and yesterday the Church of St. John, Kilburn.

The Rev. T. G. Headley, of the Manor House, Petersham, in reference to the recommendation in the Bishop of London's charge that the poor and working classes should have shorter services, different preaching, and special churches, offers £1000 towards building a church in the vicinity of Seven Dials, and to conduct a mission service in it, without the aid of any endowment or pew rent. Mr. Headley hopes that a site for a church holding 2000 persons may be offered, and that the friends of the poor and working class will contribute towards the erection of the building.

Last Saturday the Bishop of Ripon laid the foundation-stone of St. John's Church at Bradford, which is being removed from Manchester-road to a more eligible site. At a subsequent luncheon his Lordship adverted to the question of disestablishment, and confessed his hope and conviction that any apprehension on that score would prove groundless. His experience was that the Church had been long growing more deeply in the affections of the people. As a proof of this he cited the fact that in six years in his own diocese £638,000 had been contributed for Church purposes.

The Archbishop of York preached, on the 15th inst. the reopening sermon at the church of Amotherby, near Malton. There was a very large attendance of the clergy, in their surplices, the neighbouring gentry and their families, and an overflowing congregation. The rebuilding of the chancel and the addition of one hundred seats in a new north aisle has been carried out by a subscription, to which the Vicar (the Rev. O. P. Peach) is the largest contributor; and he has also carved all the bench ends and the desk of oak, the pulpit of Caen stone and Kilkenny marble, and has, besides, painted the three lights of the east window, which are memorials to members of his family. The work of restoration and enlargement is in the Norman style—the architect being Mr. Fowler Jones, of York.

Yesterday week the Bishop of London delivered his primary charge to the clergy of his diocese. His Lordship touched upon a variety of subjects, including the parochial system, the want of additional churches and clergy, pew-rents and free churches, the mode of dealing with the working classes, lay co-operation, sisterhoods, episcopal authority, ritualism, and the power of ecclesiastical courts. In dealing with the revision of the Prayer-Book, and with the complaints made with respect to the violation of the rubric, the right rev. prelate asked for the co-operation of those who, sensitive, often to excess, of ritual in others, either from jealousy of it or from carelessness, allowed themselves to neglect rubrics, which had their use and obligation still. The Bishop counselled the surplice as the preaching vestment, and concluded his charge with an earnest appeal for unity amongst Christian bodies, so that they might work together for the common good.

The usual monthly meetings of the Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels were resumed, on Monday, at the society's house, 7, Whitehall—the Hon. and Rev. Augustus Legge in the chair. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects, viz.:—Building new churches at Folkestone, St. Michael's, Kent; and Guernsey, St. Barnabas, in the parish of St. Peter Port. Rebuilding the churches at Gwynfe, in the parish of Llangadock, Cardigan, and Harbury, near Leamington. Enlarging or otherwise increasing the accommodation in the churches at Avenbury, near Bromyard; Boughton, near Stoke Ferry; Debenham, near Stonham; Ipswich, St. Mary Quay; Kingston, near Newport, Isle of Wight; Newcastle, St. Anne's; Rochester, St. Margaret's; Rowington, near Warwick; Ryarsh, near Maidstone; Salmonby, near Horncastle; and Theltham, near Harling, Suffolk. Under urgent circumstances, the grants formerly made towards building the church at Travellers' Rest, in the parish of Swinbridge, near Barnstaple; rebuilding the church at Whitchurch, near Cardigan; and towards reseating and restoring the churches at Colchester, St. James; Littlebury, near Saffron Walden; and Lyonshall, near Kingston, Hereford, were each increased. Grants were also made from the School Church and Mission House Fund towards building school or mission churches—at Hinkshay, in the parish of Dawley Magna, Salop; Leicester, St. Matthew's; Norland St. James, in the parish of Kensington, Middlesex; Pentre, in the parish of Flint; Red-street, in the parish of Chesterton, Staffordshire; Thorney Toll, in the parish of Guyhirn, near Wisbeck; Tyldyn Gwyn, in the parish of Festiniog; and at Berwick-on-Tweed. The society likewise accepted the trust of a sum of money as a repair fund for the church of St. Ambrose, Everton, near Liverpool.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OXFORD.

Congregation was occupied for two days last week with the discussion of the amendments on the proposed examination statute for the final classical schools. Thirty-six amendments were proposed, and twelve were either accepted or carried on a division. The principle of a mixed school for passmen instead of distinct schools was affirmed by the rejection of an amendment of Mr. Magrath's, and the study of the Ethics as desirable for passmen by the acceptance of an amendment of Mr. Monro's; another of whose proposals, allowing the omission of Latin and the taking up of Greek books only, was also carried, though protested against by the Professor of Latin.

The lists of candidates for moderations have been issued. There are 365 names in classics, ninety being for honours.

The examination for the Taylorian scholarship and exhibitions for French has terminated as follows:—Scholarship—W. A. B. Coolidge, Commoner, Exeter. Exhibition—C. Sanders, unattached student. Honorary mention, with present of books—E. H. Moscardi, Worcester. The scholarship is worth £50, and the exhibition worth £25—each tenable for one year.

The Right Hon. Mountague Bernard, D.C.L., has resigned the office of Assessor of the Chancellor's Court, which he had held since 1859, and the appointment has been conferred upon Dr. Adams, of St. John's College, Q.C.

In a Congregation held on Wednesday afternoon the form of statute promulgated on the 11th was passed, there being twenty-seven placets and eleven non-placets. It provides that the Encenia may be held in other places than the Sheldonian Theatre. Convocation decided to accept Mr. Ruskin's offer of £5000 for the endowment of a mastership of drawing in the University.

CAMBRIDGE.

The Carus Greek Testament prize for undergraduates has been awarded to Augustus Sydney Stokes, of St. John's. Mr. Stokes is an Exhibitioner of the college.

Sidney College sports took place, on Monday afternoon, in very inclement weather. The feature of the day was the strangers' handicap quarter-mile race, which produced some splendid racing. The race was won by Mr. Miller, Trinity Hall.

The races for the Colquhoun sculls, coveted as much as any athletic trophy in the University, were begun and finished upon the usual course on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, last week; and after an exciting struggle Mr. Benson, a freshman hailing from Eton, was declared the winner.

The St. Andrew's University rectorial election took place on Thursday. The contest was between Lord Lytton and Mr. Ruskin. At the close Principal Tulloch announced the result as follows:—Ruskin, 86; Lytton 79. Mr. Ruskin was therefore declared duly elected.

The appointment of a Professor of Classical Literature and Logic in the University of Melbourne has been intrusted to the late Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford (Dr. Leighton), Sir C. Nicholson, Bart., the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge (Dr. Thompson), the Provost of Trinity College, Dublin (Dr. Lloyd), and Mr. G. F. Verdon, C.B. Candidates must have taken a degree in arts in Oxford, Cambridge, or Dublin, and be in holy orders.

Dr. Cartmell, Master of Christ's, Cambridge, has been appointed one of the new governing body of Shrewsbury School.

The appointment of the new governing body for Rugby School, to supersede the old board of trustees, has just been completed by the election of Mr. Ralph Robert Wheeler Lingen, C.B., at present Permanent Secretary to the Treasury.

The list of the new governing body of the Charterhouse School is now complete. The affairs of the hospital will be managed by the old governors, as hitherto.

The Bishop of Winchester, in distributing the prizes at St. Saviour's Grammar School, Southwark, spoke of the value of education in improving the tone of modern society.

The Princess of Wales, feeling deeply the importance of giving a better education to the girls of the middle classes, has allowed the North London Collegiate and Camden Schools for Girls to be placed under her patronage, and has forwarded 50 *gs.* in aid of their funds.

W. F. Wells, LL.D., of Redcar, formerly first Master of the Cardiff Grammar School, has been unanimously elected Head Master of the Yarm Free Grammar School.

The Rev. George Preston, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, has been appointed Head Master of the Ruthin Grammar School.

The Rev. W. H. Keeling, M.A., Head Master of the Northampton Grammar School, has been elected to the Head Mastership of the Bradford Grammar School.

A meeting of the National Association for Improving the Education of Women was held, at the Society of Arts, yesterday week—Lord Lyttelton in the chair.

At the beginning of the week the ice upon the ornamental water in St. James's Park was sufficiently strong to permit skating, and several hundred persons assembled for that purpose. There were some immersions. A boy has been drowned in one of the Highgate ponds, through venturing on the ice while in an unsafe state.

At a general meeting of the Engineering Society, held on Friday, the 17th inst.—Mr. Hunter, president, in the chair—Mr. J. N. Douglass read a paper on "The Wolf Rock Lighthouse," describing the former dangers of the locality to shipping; the arrangements of stoneyards, tenders, barges, &c., the number of men employed, and their floating barracks. The author next described the method of dovetailing the stones adopted by his father, concluding by describing the interior arrangements, lantern, machinery, &c. A vote of thanks having been passed, a discussion ensued, in which, among others, the following gentlemen took part—Messrs. Hunter, Brittle, Terry, De Jersey, and Vivian.

At the Chemical Society, on Thursday week—Dr. Odling, vice-president, in the chair—the secretary read a paper "On Burnt Iron and Steel," by Mr. W. H. Johnson, in which the author commented on a former paper on the same subject by Mr. Williams, stating it to be his opinion that the steel became burnt through the agency of the carbonic acid present, and not through there being any free oxygen in the hottest part of the furnace. Mr. S. Bell had found that the oxidising effect of the carbonic acid and the reducing action of the carbonic oxide went on simultaneously, varying, however, with the temperature, so that if the carbonic acid were present in sufficient quantity its oxidising effect would exceed the reducing effect of the carbonic oxide, and the iron or steel would become burnt. An interesting discussion ensued, during which Mr. Riley mentioned several curious facts which he had observed during his experience. Mr. F. W. Hart then gave a description of an improved form of syphon. Finally the meeting adjourned until Dec. 7, when a paper will be read by Dr. Gladstone "On Essential Oils."



MARIE ANTOINETTE'S BOUDOIR, SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.



TANKARDS, GOBLET, AND CUPS, ART LOAN COLLECTION, SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.



"THE VILLAGE GOSSIP," BY H. S. MARKS, A.R.A.
FROM THE EXHIBITION IN THE DUDLEY GALLERY.

"THE VILLAGE GOSSIP."

A very pleasant sample this of those genial illustrations of Old English character and life with which the name of Mr. H. S. Marks has become agreeably identified. Few of our painters are so felicitous in seizing droll and humorous points of physiognomical character and expression. This is the artist's forte, and he himself is rightly conscious of it. The subject may be slight, as that before us; the incident represented may have little dramatic interest; yet the subject or incident is always rendered interesting, amusing, or delightful by some sly or racy characterisation. People say, perhaps with truth, that nobody has any character nowadays—that is, the external indications thereof. We are all getting rubbed down to one pattern by the constant friction of our modern civilisation, like pebbles on a seashore. Be this as it may, it would certainly be difficult to imagine a contemporary Shakspeare as possible; and Mr. Marks instinctively turns to Shakspearean times to find scope for his special faculty. Here, accordingly, is a village gaffer of the Elizabethan days of merrie England—

A good old man, Sir; he will be talking—

the very type of garrulousness, standing there at a settled halt, deliberately leaning on his staff. There is no train to catch, so why should he hurry? His memory is crammed with the small news of the village—more full than the wallet at his side, and will take longer to empty. He is a living broadside, before newspapers came into being. And the wayside tavern-

keeper, listening so amusedly, will, we suspect, ripen into something very like him in process of time and with adequate loss of teeth. The glimpses of landscape, the old English houses, the dusty road, the pleasant summer time, all help to make up a very welcome, amusing picture.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

In the Museum of the Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education, at South Kensington, one of the objects that commonly attracts the curiosity of visitors is Marie Antoinette's boudoir. This was erected two or three years ago, at the end of the cloisters on the east side of the South Court, near the collection of specimens of Indian, Chinese, and Japanese art-manufactures. It consists of a small room, about 13 ft. square, beautifully decorated on walls and ceiling, in the style of Riesner and Gouthière, and furnished with a square table, a small window-table, and four chairs, besides which it contains a lady's harp and the miniature busts of Louis XVI. and his Queen on the mantelpiece. The pretty little apartment at Trianon or Versailles, of which this is an exact representation, was prepared, it is said, by Marie Antoinette, with the assistance of Madame Serilly, who had been her favourite maid of honour, and it was designed as a pleasant surprise for her husband on his return from a temporary absence. An illustration of the interior is pre-

sented in our Engraving. On the same page are shown a few of the ornamental vessels, tankards, goblets, and salt-cellars, of antique design and workmanship, in the Art Loan Collection at the museum, which occupies the western division of the South Court.

A deputation of National School teachers in Ireland waited upon the Marquis of Hartington, last Saturday, for the purpose of stating various grievances. They plead for higher remuneration and retiring pensions after a lengthened service, and they object to the proposed system of payment by results, and complain that no interest is taken in the schools by the landed proprietors. Lord Hartington admitted that in the matter of local assistance the National system had broken down in Ireland, and hinted that when the question came to be considered by Parliament it might be necessary to impose a school rate in order to procure a more satisfactory contribution from the localities than it had hitherto been found possible to do. His Lordship thought the objections of the teachers to the system of payment by results were deserving of consideration, but said the Government could not be expected to overlook the fact that the system had worked very satisfactorily in England.—On Saturday the committee of the Irish Congregational Union passed a resolution approving of the principle of non-sectarian education, and entirely disapproving of denominational education as unsuited to the state of the country and calculated to perpetuate sectarian bigotry.

BIRTHS.

On the 16th inst., at New Brompton, Kent, the wife of Hamilton Tovey, Lieutenant Royal Engineers, of a son.
On the 14th inst., at Park House, near Whitehaven, Cumberland, the wife of J. L. Burns-Lindow, Esq., of a daughter.
On the 13th inst., at Castle Howard, Vale of Avoca, Ireland, the wife of J. R. Heron Maxwell, Esq. (late Captain 15th King's Hussars), of a son and heir.

MARRIAGES.

At St. Andrew's, Wells-street, Frederick Sedley, Captain 79th (Cameron) Highlanders, to Edith Fanny, second daughter of the late Rev. Gilbert Henry Langdon, M.A., Vicar of Oving and Prebendary of Chichester, and granddaughter of the late Admiral Sir John Ommaney, K.C.B.
On the 11th inst., in the Church of Santa Maria Novella, Florence, Prince Palagonia Grifo, Grandee of Spain of the First Class, to Lady Maude Mary Walpole, second daughter of the Earl of Orford.

DEATHS.

On the morning of the 22nd inst., at Eastbourne-terrace, Hyde Park, after a very short illness, Georgiana Anne Monsell Basset, youngest daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Basset, of Beaupré, Glamorganshire, and Windsor Castle.
On the 20th inst., at Whinfield House, Blackburn, Eliza, wife of James Dickinson.
On the 23rd inst., at 67, Queen's gardens, Maud, second daughter of J. L. Hannay, Esq., in her 15th year.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 2.

SUNDAY, Nov. 26.—Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
Divine Service: St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. Michael Gibbs, M.A., Prebendary, Rural Dean, and Vicar of Christ Church, Newgate-street; 3.0 p.m., the Rev. Canon Gregory, M.A.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., probably the Rev. Canon Nepean, and the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster.
Chapels Royal: St. James's, noon, the Rev. John Edward Kempe, M.A., Rector of St. James's, Piccadilly. Whitehall, 11 a.m., the Right Rev. Bishop Cloughton; Archdeacon of London, 3 p.m. Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy and of the House of Commons; 7 p.m., the Rev. F. Laughton, M.A., assistant preacher.
Temple Church, 11 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 8 p.m., the Rev. Francis Garden, M.A., Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal.
MONDAY, 27.—Princess Mary of Cambridge and Teck born, 1833. Full moon, 1.53 a.m.
Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 2 p.m.
London Institution Lecture, 4 p.m. (Professor Huxley on Smell, Taste, and Touch).
Institute of Actuaries, 7 p.m. (Mr. H. A. Bailey on Insolvency of Life Insurance Companies). Medical Society, 8 p.m.
Royal Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m. (Captain R. F. Burton on the Volcanic Districts east of Damascus, &c.).
Royal Academy Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. Partridge on Anatomy).
Society of Arts, Cantor Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. C. Haughton Gill on the Manufacture of Sugar).
National Social Science Association, 8 p.m. (Mr. T. Begg on Benefit Building Societies). Royal Albert Orphan Asylum, Bagshot, election.
TUESDAY, 28.—St. Paul's Cathedral, 8 p.m., lecture to young men (the Rev. Canon Gregory).
Friends of the Clergy Corporation election, at Willis's Rooms, noon.
Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m. (discussion on Pneumatic Discharge Tubes, &c.). Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30.
University College, lecture, 6.30 p.m. (Prof. Cairns on Political Economy).
WEDNESDAY, 29.—South Kensington Museum, lecture, 2.30 p.m. (Professor Duncan on Elementary Physiography).
Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. W. Bridges Adams on Tramways).
THURSDAY, 30.—St. Andrew, apostle and martyr.
Royal Society, anniversary, 4 p.m.
Middlesex Hospital, quarterly court, noon.
Curates' Augmentation Fund, anniversary, 4 p.m.
University College, lecture, 6.30 p.m. (Prof. Cairns on Political Economy).
Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m. (Mr. Knight Watson, sec. S.A., on an Early French Deed (1297) relating to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem).
London Institution, Travers Lecture, 7.30 (Mr. P. L. Simmonds on Science and Commerce).
Royal Academy Lecture, 8 p.m. (Professor Barff on Chemistry).
The Scottish Corporation, anniversary (the Marquis of Lorne in the chair).
Annual match at football, at Eton, between the Collegers and the Oppidians.
Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, half-yearly election at the London Tavern, 10 a.m.
FRIDAY, Dec. 1.—Alexandra, Princess of Wales, born, 1844.
Brown Institution for Studying and Curing Diseases of Animals, Wandsworth, to be opened, 9 a.m.
National Benevolent Institution, annual meeting, 10.30 a.m.
Archaeological Institute of Great Britain, 4 p.m.
Architectural Association, 7.30 p.m. (Mr. Wyke Bayliss on the Three Schools of Architecture).
Geologists' Association, 8 p.m.
Philological Society, 8.15 p.m. (Professor T. Hewett Key on some Errors in Latin Dictionaries).
Society of Arts, India Committee, 8 p.m. (Colonel Romaine Ragge on Indian Forests and Railways).
SATURDAY, 2.—Accession of Francis I., Emperor of Austria, 1848; of the Emperor Napoleon III., 1852. Society of Schoolmasters, 2 p.m.
Royal Horticultural Society, promenade, 2 p.m.
South Kensington Museum, Lecture, 2.30 p.m. (Professor Duncan on Elementary Physiography). Artists and Amateurs, anniversary, 7 p.m.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 2.

Tuesday, 1		Monday, 2		Tuesday, 3		Wednesday, 4		Thursday, 5		Friday, 6		Saturday, 7	
h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m
1	29	1	43	2	5	2	23	2	40	2	56	3	12
3	29	3	43	4	5	4	23	4	40	4	56	5	12

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	Force.	Direction.			
November	Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	°	°	Miles.	In.			
15	29.783	45.4	43.4	93	7	36.2	54.0	138	WSW.	WNW.	138	11.3
16	30.016	38.4	30.3	75	0	36.4	43.9	236	NNW.	NW.	236	0.15
17	29.963	34.4	26.1	74	4	31.9	38.9	269	NNW.	NW.	269	0.00
18	30.290	32.8	26.1	79	0	27.6	39.3	69	NW.	NW.	69	0.00
19	30.333	36.0	29.3	79	0	19.0	38.6	72	NW.	NW.	72	0.00
20	30.333	36.0	29.3	79	0	23.9	43.9	247	N. S. E.	N. S. E.	247	0.00
21	30.080	23.0	26.8	80	7	27.4	37.9	198	SE. ESE.	SE. ESE.	198	0.00

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (inches) corrected	29.761	30.012	30.329	30.363	30.433	30.378	30.143
Temperature of Air	47.7	39.0	33.0	32.3	27.4	40.0	35.5
Temperature of Evaporation	47.9	39.3	33.0	32.3	27.4	40.0	35.5
Direction of Wind	WSW	N	NW	NW	NW	SE	SE

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. B. Chatterton.—Triumph success. Free list suspended.—Last Three Weeks.—On MONDAY, NOV. 27, and during the Week, her Majesty's servants will perform a laughable Farce, THE WRONG MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE, in which the celebrated Yokes Family will appear. After which will be produced, at a quarter to Eight, a new romantic and spectacular Drama, entitled REBECCA, founded on Sir Walter Scott's celebrated novel of "Ivanhoe," adapted by Andrew Halliday. Characteristic scenery by William Beverley. With the following powerful cast:—Mr. Phelps, Messrs. J. B. Howard, E. Rosenthal, J. Dewhurst, W. MacIntyre, B. Egan, W. Terris, S. Dynely, J. Francis, Delman, Bruton; Miss Neilson, Misses Mattie Reinhardt, Fanny Addison, Kathleen Ryan, &c. Fanciful Ballet and Grand Tournament, with real horses and 300 auxiliaries, arranged by John Cornack.—The overture and incidental music selected and composed by W. C. Levey, and the Drama produced under the direction of Mr. Edward Stirling. To conclude with a new Farce, by Martin Beecher, entitled No. 6, DUKE-STREET. Doors open at half-past six, commence at seven. Prices from 6d. to 4s. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily.

REBECCA—MORNING PERFORMANCE of this Grand Spectacular Drama will be given, in aid of the Chicago Sufferers' Fund, on WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6, under the patronage of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and other distinguished personages. Doors open half-past One, commence at Two. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily.—Theatre Royal, Drury-lane.

THE
CHRISTMAS DOUBLE NUMBER
OF THE
ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS
FOR 1871,
TO BE ISSUED ON DECEMBER 16,
WILL CONSIST OF
A LARGE COLOURED ENGRAVING,
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NUMEROUS TALES, SKETCHES, &c.

Price of the Christmas Double Number, One Shilling; or by Post, One Shilling and a Halfpenny.

OFFICE, 198, STRAND, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Last Three Nights of THE PALACE OF TRUTH, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (by desire), SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER—Tony Lumpkin, Mr. Buckstone. KILLING TIME—Miss Sedgwick. Box-Office daily, from Ten till Five.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Bateman.—On SATURDAY, NOV. 25, IS HE JEALOUS?—Mr. Herbert Crellin. At 7.45, will be produced a New Drama, in Three Acts, by Leopold Lewis, entitled THE BELLS, adapted from "The Polish Jew," a dramatic study by M.M. Breckmann-Chatrain. Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Frank Hall, Mr. F. W. Irish, Mr. Herbert Crellin, Mrs. G. Paucefort, and Miss Fanny Heywood. With new and appropriate scenery by Hawes Craven, H. Cuthbert, and Assistants. The Music composed and arranged by M. E. Singa, Chef d'Orchestre of the Theatre Cluny, Paris, who is (by the kind permission of M. Laroche) specially engaged for this piece, and will conduct the orchestra. The whole produced under the immediate direction of Mr. H. L. Bateman. To conclude with PICKWICK (in Three Acts)—Messrs. George Belmore, Henry Irving, Addison, F. Hall, Irish, Odell, Dyas, Branscombe, and H. Crellin; Messdames M. Hill, Leigh, Ewell, Lafontaine, and Kate Manor. Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Box-Office open daily from Ten till Five.

ASTLEY'S NEW GRAND AMPHITHEATRE.—Managers and Directors, JNO. and GEO. SANGER. A startling change in the whole of the Equestrian Department. Riders, Acrobats, and Gymnasts in their new performances.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Great Sensational Spectacle, THE LAST OF THE RACE. The most magnificent production ever witnessed. The Great Fight for the Passage of the Bridge is a sensation only to be witnessed at this famed and elegant Establishment.

ASTLEY'S GRAND AMPHITHEATRE.—Grand MID-DAY PERFORMANCES every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at Two o'Clock. Doors open at 1.30.

SURREY THEATRE.—On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday HENRY DUNBAR—Mr. H. Neville, Mr. Shephard, Miss M. B. Jones, AND THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN BROOD—John Jasper, Mr. Henry Neville; Rosa, Miss M. B. Jones. Acting Manager, Mr. J. W. Webster.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE. Argyl-street, Regent-street (close to the Oxford-street-circus). The finest Troupe in the world. Fifty beautiful horses. All the Artists take first rank in their several specialties. Immense success of the brilliant spectacle of IVANHOE (drawn from Sir W. Scott's novel), with its impressive Tournament and dazzling Pageantry, Every Evening. Open at 7.15; commencing at 7.45. Grand illuminated Matinee, in all respects equalling the evening representations, every Wednesday and Saturday. Open at 2; commence at 2.30.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SECOND NATIONAL CAT SHOW, under the patronage of her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland, the Hon. Lady Cust, Lady Mildred Beresford-Hope, Lady Dorothy Nevill, the Hon. Mrs. Henry Walpole, and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.—SATURDAY, DEC. 2, MONDAY, DEC. 4. Many arrangements which were necessarily tentative at the first Cat Show have been completed for the second, and a still more remarkable result and opportunity for observation of the wonderful development of race under varying conditions, in this country and abroad will be ensured. Judges—the Hon. Lady Cust, Lady Mildred Beresford-Hope, Lady Dorothy Nevill, the Hon. Mrs. Henry Walpole; the Rev. J. Cunningham Macdonald, Harrison Weir, Esq., Jenner Weir, Esq. Admission on Saturday, Half a Crown; Monday, One Shilling; both days by Guinea Season Ticket.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The CHRISTY MINSTRELS' Grand REOPENING on MONDAY AFTERNOON at Three.—Messrs. Moore and Burgess have the honour of announcing the Completion of the Important Alterations and Improvements which they have made in their Hall during the time their Company have been performing in the Great Hall.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—On MONDAY AFTERNOON, REOPENING of Messrs. Moore and Burgess's Hall. Enlargement of the Gallery to thrice its former size.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The CHRISTYS.—On MONDAY AFTERNOON, REOPENING of Messrs. Moore and Burgess's Hall. Erection of new and elegantly fitted Private Boxes. New Stall and Fauteuil Entrances.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The CHRISTYS.—On MONDAY at Three and Eight. REOPENING of Messrs. Moore and Burgess's Hall. Splendidly Re-decorated. New Stall Carpets. New and effective System of Ventilation.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Grand REOPENING on MONDAY at Three and Eight.—On and after Monday Messrs. Moore and Burgess's CHRISTY MINSTRELS' will perform on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday Three and Eight. Entirely New Programme. Private Boxes, 2s. 6d.; Fauteuils, 5s.; Sofa Seats, 3s.; Area (raised seats), 2s.; New Gallery, 1s. Doors open, for Day Performances, 2.30; for the Evening, 7.30. No fees of any description. Ladies can retain their bonnets in all parts. Places may be secured at Mitchell's, Old Bond-street; and at the Hall.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT. entitled A PECULIAR FAMILY, written by William Brough, and ECHOES OF THE OPERA, by Mr. Corney Grain. Every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s.

MACCABE'S ENTERTAINMENT OF VARIETIES. Music, Ventriquoism, and Character Delineations at the CHARING-CROSS THEATRE, Strand, commencing on SATURDAY, DEC. 2. After an absence of three years, Mr. Maccabe returns to London, the scene of his early success, and the vicinity in which he thoroughly and satisfactorily established his reputation as a public entertainer by a continued and uninterrupted series of 271 performances at the Great St. James's Hall, and 512 performances at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, when he succeeded in drawing together during that lengthened period the largest audiences ever assembled to witness an entertainment by a single artist.

MADAME SAINTON-DOLBY'S VOCAL ACADEMY. Madame Sainton-Dolby begs to announce that her Academy for the Training of Professional Vocalists (Ladies only) for Oratorios and the Concert-room, will open shortly after Christmas. Prospectus on application at her residence, 71, Gloucester-place, Hyde Park, W.; or at Mr. George Dolby's Office, 52, New Bond-street.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—Under the patronage of her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Teck, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Marchioness of Westminster, the Countess of Oottingham, the Countess Bernstorff, the Hon. Lady Hall, Lady William Lennox, Lady Arthur Lennox, Lady Culme Seymour, Lady Augusta Seymour, Lady Isabella Schuster, &c.—WILLIAM CARTER'S new Cantata, PLACIDA, the CHRISTIAN MARTYR, will be performed on TUESDAY EVENING, DEC. 5, at Eight, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Miss Alice Fairman, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Frank Elmore, Mr. Robert Hilton, M. Valdec. Above 1000 performers. Organ, Mr. George Carter; Conductor, Mr. William Carter. The second part will include Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer" (Madame Sherrington); "Judge me, O God," concerto in G minor (pianoforte, Mr. William Carter); "Cujus animam" (Mr. Edward Lloyd); "O Salutaris," Messe Solenne (Miss Alice Fairman); Cantique de Noël (M. Valdec); "Samson" (Mr. Frank Elmore); "Shall I in Mem're's fortie plain" (Mr. Hilton); and Beethoven's "Hallelujah Chorus." Tickets, 10s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s., may be obtained at the usual places; at the Albert Hall; and of Mr. William Carter, 23, Colville-square, W.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. The ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES is now OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission, 1s. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

DORE GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORE, 35, New Bond-street.—EXHIBITION of PICTURES, including TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY, CHRISTIAN MARTYRS, MONASTERY, FRANCESCO DE RIMINI, TITANIA, &c. Open Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—The Seventy-third Annual Show of FAT STOCK, SHEEP, PIGS, ROOTS, SEEDS, and AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS will be held, at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, London, on MONDAY, DEC. 4, and the following Days. Admission, on Monday, after 2 p.m., Five Shillings; other Days, One Shilling.

SIX COLOURED PLATES.
Now ready, price One Shilling,
THE
ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK
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SIX EMBLEMATIC PICTURES OF BIRDS,
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TWELVE FINE-ART ENGRAVINGS;
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1871.

"Portents and prodigies are lost on me," replied the heroic Achilles, after being addressed by one of his own horses as they hurried him to the battle. Probably that is the most remarkable case on record of splendid nerve. No one in the present degenerate age is likely to have an opportunity of emulating the courage of Pelides, for the only warnings that are given by horses are when they make a frightful example of some "gilded youth" of sporting proclivities. It is not the horses that indulge in oratory now. But in a way, and in a degree, we must all seek to fortify our nervous systems, and be prepared to look at affairs, especially public affairs, with a certain serenity, at a time when we are daily assured by vivid and accomplished writers that signs of the times flash upon us from all quarters of the horizon, as the November meteors have declined to do. Scarcely a day comes but with it comes a warning that something or other is going to happen. We suppose that the augurs laugh when they meet one another, but they make it no laughing matter for a confiding community, which, be it said with "bated breath," rather likes to be frightened.

The fall of Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet is, of course, certain, according to the predictions of one set of vaticinators. We do not know that they have fixed the precise day for the chute, whether the Premier is again to have the satisfaction of shaking hands with Mr. Bright on the Treasury Bench, or whether Mr. Gladstone is to imitate the graceful conduct of his predecessors, and retire without challenging the alleged decision of the nation. But fall he must, as Jupiter, in Shelley, is bidden by Demogorgon to abdicate:—

Descend, and follow me down the Abyss!

The catastrophe, or deliverance, is certain, and for three reasons; or rather, let us say, that it is foretold by three blazing signs, or comets. First, a Dublin jury acquitted a man supposed to be guilty of murder. This proves that Mr. Gladstone cannot govern Ireland, for what is government if it does not ensure justice. And if he cannot govern Ireland, *a fortiori* he is unfit to sway the greater kingdom called England, and the more civilised region called Scotland. But there is another fiery signal in the heavens. Mr. Gladstone's late Attorney-General was member for Plymouth, but the electors of the Plym

will have no Liberal successor to Sir Robert Collier, and they have chosen Mr. Bates, rejecting a Dissenting solicitor. There is the second sign. But the great and terrible sign of all is one which Mr. Gladstone himself personally conjured up with his own voice, as Mokanna (to whom many Tories consider that the Premier bears a singular family likeness) evoked the ball of fire from the well. Mr. Gladstone has conclusively shown that he is an enemy to all religion, all Churches, and all beliefs, and is no longer fit—if he were ever fit—to rule in a Christian country. For did he not at Greenwich quote five excessively bad lines of verse from a book which he had never read, and which is found to contain much detestable profanity in almost equally detestable doggerel. Dublin, Plymouth, Greenwich—over each the horrid portent hath arisen, and the augurs can only wonder at the hardened nature that prevents Mr. Gladstone from seeing that his hour has come. To his admirers—and by some strange chance they are counted in a large majority in Parliament and by myriads in the nation—these auguries are very unpleasant, and they feel inclined to parody the famous *De par le roi* that was put up at the burial-ground in Paris, where miracles were said to be nightly performed, to the great trouble of the police. The people of England would thank the augurs not to make any more prophecies, as their fulfilment will not be allowed on any account.

"But what talk we" of such folks as mere Ministers? There is a whole zodiac of signs which make it quite plain that the Constitution is coming down, and of course the Throne with it. Has not a real live Baronet, of nearly the latest creation, openly avowed himself a Republican? Is not that red hand held up to vote for the extinction of the star of Brunswick? Are not the Dilke arms "quarterly of nine, 1st gules, a lion rampant," &c., arrayed for battle with the lion and unicorn? The Baronet's crest may be a dove proper, but there is nothing of the dove in his denunciations of the Court, and no olive-branch in the beak of that "fowl of fate." What came in with William of Normandy will go out with Dilke of Chelsea. That is certain. But there are many more terrors. Is not Mr. Odger afield? It is all very well to write about the good-humoured face of this Republican: Cromwell could laugh when he chose; but remember Drogheda. Is not Mr. Odger publishing a journal to educate the people in Republican principles? It is base to mention that the educated people are so little grateful that the only way to raise money to bring out the last number of the journal was by "a raffle for a blanket." It was brought out, and fate is looking through the blanket of the dark to note the effect on the British Monarchy. Lastly, has not the giant Bradlaugh distinctly signified, in the name of the people of England, that in no circumstances can the hereditary principle of Monarchy be permitted to be maintained? There we have three more signs distinctly portending a cataclysm, and these are so pertinaciously pointed out to us at our daily down-sitting and up-rising, that life would become a sort of burden if we had not in us something of the mettle of the strong-nerved Achilles.

Mr. Gladstone, the Monarchy, and the Constitution thus menaced, smaller afflictions may pass unnoticed; and yet when we are assured that the days of the Church of England are numbered, that the present set of coronets is the last that will be manufactured, and that all the land of the country will in a few years be divided into holdings of forty yards by twenty, and distributed among the millions, we gaze out upon the signs of these things (all clearly predicted) with an air, like Lara's, "as fixed, but far too tranquil for despair." We have waited a good while for the consummation; but it is all to come in one sudden burst, as set forth in Scandinavian mythology. Yet one last effort is due from us, and we humbly submit that it ought to be made by all who believe that, on the whole, things are going very well, and that society will hold on yet. To imitate Achilles were difficult, but we may do something in imitation of as brave a man of later time. When Horatio Nelson was told to look at a signal that he ought to have disregarded, and the disregard of which gave him victory, he put the telescope to his blind eye. We may do worse when sham signs are pointed out by alarmists.

THE COURT.

The Queen gave a dance at Balmoral Castle, on Thursday week, to the servants of the Royal household. Her Majesty, with Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice, was present a short time.

On Sunday the Queen and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service at Crathie church. The Rev. Dr. Smith, of North Leith, officiated.

Her Majesty has taken daily drives in the neighbourhood of Balmoral.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Huntly and Sir John and Lady Clark have been on a visit to the Queen at Balmoral.

Major-General J. Forbes (Inverernan) has dined with her Majesty. Captain Haynes and Lieutenant Welch, 93rd Highlanders, partook of luncheon at the castle on Thursday week, and were afterwards received by the Queen.

The Court is expected to arrive at Windsor Castle to-day (Saturday) from the Highlands.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales is seriously indisposed. The symptoms, although not severe, indicate the commencement of an attack of typhoid fever. His Royal Highness is at Sandringham House, where Sir William Jenner, Dr. Gull, and Dr. Clayton are in attendance upon the Prince. The Princess of Wales continues at Sandringham House. The King of Denmark will not visit their Royal Highnesses at this time.

The Imperial Crown Princess of Germany (Princess Royal of England) attained her thirty-first year on Tuesday. In

celebration of the day, at Windsor, the bells of St. George's Chapel and St. John's Church were rung and Royal salutes fired from the corporation artillery, the Royal Adelaide frigate, and Fort Belvedere.

The Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Arthur passed Saturday last shooting in Windsor Great Park.

The Duke of Cambridge has been on a visit during the week to Lord Huntingfield, at Heveningham Hall, Suffolk, and the Earl of Stradbroke, at Henham Hall.

The ex-Emperor Napoleon visited the Crystal Palace on Monday. Yesterday week he was at Woolwich, on the occasion of the opening of a chrysanthemum show at the Townhall.

His Excellency Musurus Pacha has returned to the Turkish Embassy, in Bryanston-square, from The Mount, Norwood.

His Excellency the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador (Count Apponyi) has returned to the Embassy in Belgrave-square from visiting Earl and Countess Granville at Walmer Castle.

His Excellency the German Ambassador, accompanied by Countess Bernstorff, has arrived at Prussia House.

The Duke and Duchess of Sutherland left Stafford House, St. James's, on Monday, for Hawkestone Hall, Salop, on a visit to Viscount Hill.

The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton have returned to town from Scotland. Lady Georgiana has since left for Blenheim Palace, to visit the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough.

The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland have arrived at Alnwick Castle from Stanwick Park.

The Duke and Duchess of Grafton have arrived in town from Euston Hall, en route for their seat in Northamptonshire.

Marquis and Marchioness Townshend have arrived in Dover-street from Duff House, Banff.

The Marquis of Headfort and Ladies Madeline and Isabel Tylour have arrived in Grafton-street from Underly Hall.

The Marquis of Lansdowne left Lansdowne House on Saturday last for Bowood, Wilts.

The Earl and Countess of Dudley have arrived at Dudley House, Park-lane, from Witley Court, Worcestershire, preparatory to their departure for Egypt.

The Earl of Malmesbury has returned to Stratford-place from visiting Colonel the Hon. Richard and Lady Margaret Charteris at their seat in Suffolk.

The Right Hon. Hugh and Mrs. Childers arrived in town on Monday from a Continental tour.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The council of the Royal Society have awarded the medals in their gift for the present year as follow:—The Copley medal to Julius Robert Mayer, of Heilbronn; the Royal medals to Mr. George Busk, F.R.S., and Dr. John Stenhouse, F.R.S.

Mr. T. Hughes, M.P., presided, on Monday evening, at the opening autumnal meeting of the Social Science Association, when the principles and the working of the co-operative movement formed the principal topic of discussion.

The new thoroughfare connecting the eastern end of Fleet-street with the Holborn-viaduct was on Monday thrown open to the public. It is about a quarter of a mile in length, and has been carried out at a cost of about £45,000.

A letter was read at a recent meeting of the St. Pancras guardians in which the Local Government Board called upon Dr. Ellis, medical officer of the workhouse infirmary, to resign his situation. This he has accordingly done.

At the annual meeting of the Labour Representation League, held last Saturday evening, it was announced that a winter series of public meetings for the discussion of social and political questions would shortly be commenced.

At a meeting of the Royal Humane Society, held at the offices, Trafalgar-square, on Tuesday, a large number of deserving cases of saving life from drowning in various parts of the world were investigated and rewarded.

The lady who presented Mr. Spurgeon with £20,000, some time ago, to found an orphanage for boys, has, it is stated, offered that gentleman another large sum of money to found a similar institution for girls.

The winter series of science classes for ladies was inaugurated at the South Kensington Museum on Saturday last. About 150 ladies were present at Professor Duncan's opening address, which was devoted to Physiography. The Professor took the Thames as his illustration.

The Mercers' Company has subscribed 100 gs. to the Persian Famine Fund. The subscriptions received at the Mansion House in aid of the fund amount to about £7100. A further sum of £1500 was, on Monday, ordered to be sent from the Mansion House Fund for the relief of the sufferers in Antigua.

Colonel J. M. Hogg, M.P., was, yesterday week, unanimously re-elected to the chairmanship of the Metropolitan Board of Works for one year. Amongst the business of the board was the reception of a report from the works and general purposes committee, in which an opinion was expressed that it was not within the province of the board to provide the necessary approaches to the new Law Courts, and that the expense of rebuilding the Church of St. Clement Danes should be defrayed by the commissioners for the erection of the courts. The report was adopted.

Under the presidency of Sir R. Anstruther, M.P., a conference of the Liquor Laws Amendment Association was held, on Tuesday, in the Adelphi. Various suggestions were made that murders or outrages in public-houses, the supplying of drink to young persons, the playing of skittles and other games, should entail forfeiture of license. Some of these were approved, and others were severely criticised. A resolution was, however, adopted, accepting as a base of legislation a proposal which emanated from the brewers and publicans, that compensation should be provided from a license rental. On Wednesday the further limitation of the hours of sale was discussed at some length. Archbishop Manning was amongst the speakers.

Lord George Hamilton, M.P., presided last Saturday at a meeting at Bow for the purpose of promoting technical education in the east of London. Mr. E. Hay Currie stated that the Tower Hamlets Educational Association had sent 575 boys to the science and art classes which had been established in the east of London, and paid their fees. Sir Antonio Brady pointed out that, while these exertions were being made in that part of London on behalf of technical education by private means, the Government were extremely lax in respect to the completion of the East London Museum, whose use as a central school of art for the district could not be over-estimated, seeing that the museums and galleries of the West-End were practically inaccessible to the toiling thousands of the East. A resolution recommending the objects of the meeting was adopted.

"NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

Engineers have, I believe, long abandoned the idea that anything is impossible to them. "Give me matter and motion," said the ancient philosopher, "and I will make you a world;" but he asked a good deal. The engineer of our time merely says, "Give me money." I do not suppose that he will get to the moon in my time; but my grandchildren may have shares in the Direct Lunar, and then, if they are inclined to be loftily compassionate, and to wonder what people in 1871 would have thought of such a thing, I refer them to Dr. Croly, who, forty years ago, treated the achievement as merely one of difficulties, which mean, as Lord Lyndhurst wisely said, things to be got over. If a reader will refer to Dr. Croly's four-volume edition of Pope, he will see that we have long been prepared for the idea of visiting the pale glimpses of the moon at their source. In the mean time, a more useful project is in the hands of the great "Poets," as Mr. Carlyle would assuredly call the Doers. One does not know what particular use there would be in making a way to the moon. The Irishman who wished to light her up all the year round was the only practical person who has dealt with the subject, and even his arguments were open to cavil, as his admiration for her was based upon her shining in the dark, when we do want light, and not merely burning, like the superfluous sun, in the daytime, when we have plenty of light. However, we can wait to hear about this, but we can much less easily wait for sea-water in London. Why this has never been supplied to us is one of the mysteries, seeing that the water lies but fifty miles off, and there are straight roads leading to it. It seems that engineering is at last going to give us this grand sanitary boon; and, as an Act of Parliament is wanted, let us hope that the Ministers will permit this omnibus to come through Temple-bar without "nursing" or jostling.

Rather an interesting question has been raised this week. A couple of ruffians have been flogged in Newgate, and reporters, of a high class, were invited to witness the operation. They do not appear to have been at all satisfactorily impressed. The punishment seems to them to have been of a very light kind, scarcely worth mentioning. An old man of seventy was the operator; and the weapon, instead of being the terrible "cat," of which such dreadful stories are told, was a comparatively harmless affair, on which, after all was over, there were no signs of its having been an instrument of chastisement. I do not much wish to discuss the topic here, but as the punishment in question is the only one of which a brutal criminal is afraid, it seems a pity that he should be disabused of the belief in its unpleasantness.

Justice, moreover, may have failed in another direction. The Judges have quashed the conviction of a baker who put a great quantity of alum into his bread. That is, he made bread of flour in which there was a great quantity of alum, but it could not be shown at what period of the history of the loaf the adulterating matter had been put in. So British law, which has numberless merits, but which cannot be accused of any undue regard for society in the aggregate, protects the baker from punishment. Perhaps he did not know that there was any alum in his bread. If so it is delightful to reflect that an innocent fellow-creature has not suffered injustice. It is less delightful to reflect that we are all liable to eat adulterated bread, and that we have no means of obtaining reparation for the injury to our digestion.

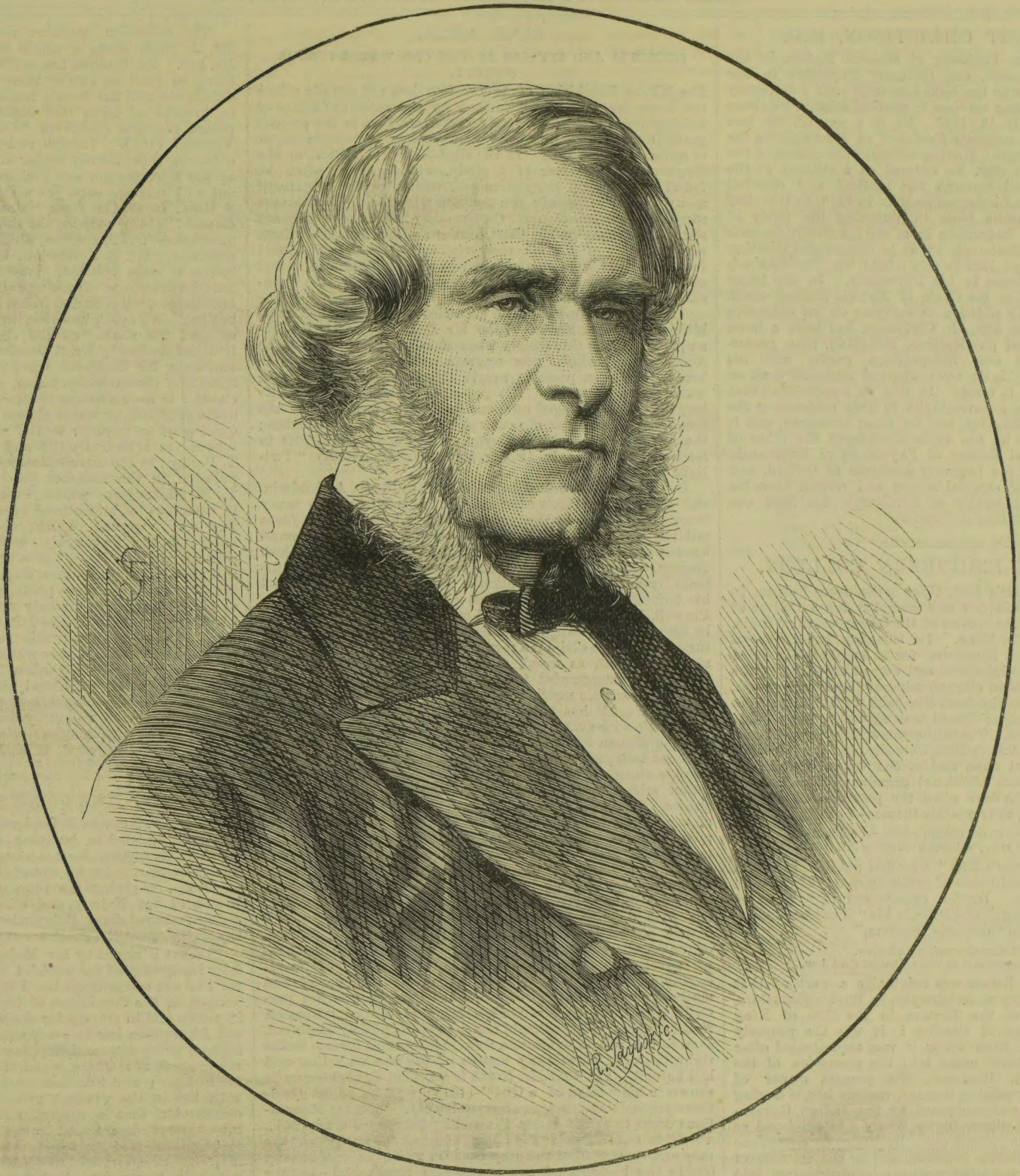
We have not had a libel trial for a long time, but a rule for a criminal information has just been obtained in circumstances of some interest. The case being unheard, of course I merely condense the alleged facts. A gentleman of considerable literary celebrity is accused of having inserted in his last novel highly unflattering portraits of certain solicitors whom he had cause to dislike. I hope that he will be able to bring himself off handsomely. It is difficult to form an opinion as to the wisdom of legal proceedings in such a case. No doubt a man who is certain that he has been unfairly caricatured feels lawful anger, and desires to set himself right with his friends and to punish his assailant. On the other hand, worldly experience tells him that for one person who notices and applies a caricature that is not resented fifty persons examine one which has irritated its object. But every case must be ruled by its special circumstances. I do not remember the same kind of charge having been made against an English novelist for many years past (there was a French author punished within the last two or three years for having revenged himself on some creditors by "putting them into a book"), but I recollect that a long time back an advertisement purporting to describe the contents of a forthcoming novel became the subject of an action. Here, I think, a revengeful partner was the author, and that he summed up his grievances in a kind of *conspectus*, which appeared in the papers. The most harmless revenge on enemies was that taken by a French dramatist, who used to affix their names to the bad characters in his plays, as "M. Dupont (a low thief);" and something like this was done in my time at an English theatre, but we will not revive that story. "Lethe is a brave river."

Dr. Colenso had not lately been heard of, but it is not in that Bishop's nature to be idle. The "Speaker's" Commentary on the Bible, or rather the first two parts of that valuable and orthodox work, went forth to Natal, and Dr. Colenso evidently lost no time in examining and analysing a set of treatises which he was quite sure would afford him matter for a response. He has this week published his reply to the "English Episcopate," which he accuses of doing a monstrous wrong to the rising generation by defying all the triumphs of science and propagating what he unhesitatingly calls the idolatry of the Book. I need scarcely say that I have had no time even to look at Dr. Colenso's arguments and criticisms, but the intimation that such a work has been launched will be interesting to most readers. We may prepare for a new and bitter theological controversy.

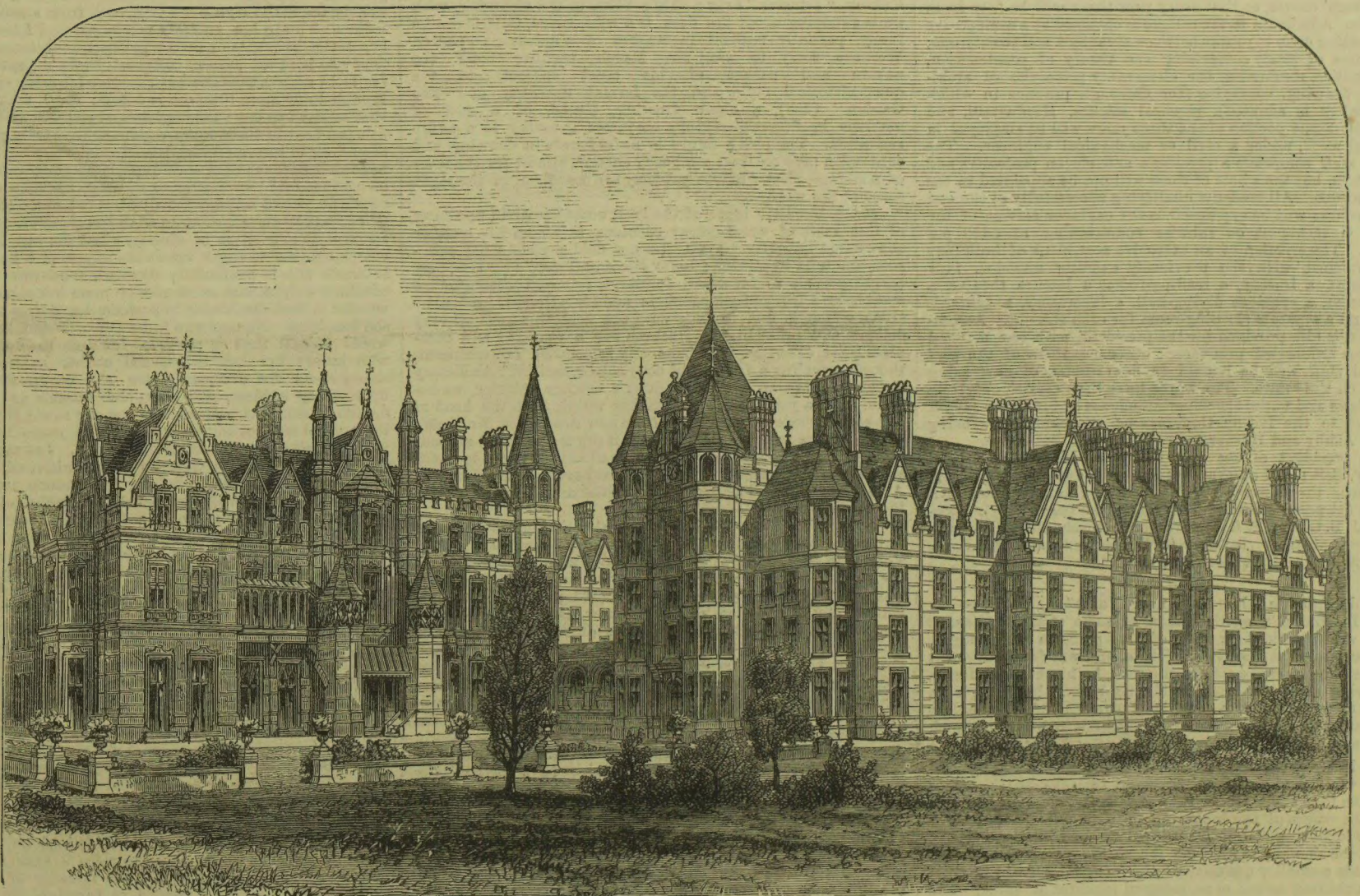
I may be allowed to call attention here to a subject which must suggest sincere regret, however gratifying may be the demonstration which has been elicited. It has been known that by the premature death of Mr. Mark Lemon his family was left without the provision which he would have made for its members had his life been prolonged. It has been resolved publicly to invite contributions for that purpose, and subscriptions are now being received. From the press the promoters of the subscription have received powerful and valuable aid. It seems to me a friend's duty to anticipate the question that naturally occurs to men of business. Mr. Mark Lemon was making a large income—why could he not provide for his family? Those who raise this legitimate inquiry must accept from his intimate friends the statement that it was simply impossible for him to make such provision. I think that this statement will be accepted, and I will only add that the treasurer to the fund is the Rev. R. Blaker, Ifield, Crawley, Sussex.



OLD TANNERIES ON THE RHONE, GENEVA.



SIR ROBERT CHRISTISON, BART., M.D., EDINBURGH.



THE ROYAL INDIAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE, COOPER'S HILL, EGHAM.

SIR ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D.

Dr. Robert Christison, Professor of Materia Medica in the University of Edinburgh, and Ordinary Physician to her Majesty in Scotland, who has been honoured with a baronetcy in recognition of his long services to medical science, was born in Edinburgh, on July 18, 1797. He is a son of the late Alexander Christison, formerly Professor of Humanity in the University of Edinburgh. Having attended the classes of the High School of that city, he entered as a student at the University, and passed through the medical and classical course. Having taken his degree as M.D. in 1819, he travelled abroad, and spent some time in pursuing the study of toxicology at Paris. Returning from the Continent, he took up his residence at Edinburgh, where he commenced practice, and for ten years (from 1822 to 1832) held the Professorship of Medical Jurisprudence in his University. In the latter year he was promoted to the Chair of Materia Medica, which he has since held. In addition to carrying on an extensive practice in his native city, Dr. Christison has been a large contributor to medical publications, including both professional journals and also independent works, and his "Treatise on Poisons" is an acknowledged standard work on the subjects on which it treats. It will be remembered that he was called upon as a toxicologist to give evidence at the trial of Palmer, of Rugeley, and on other occasions, and it should be added that he has twice discharged the office of president of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. He has also received the honorary doctorate of Oxford, and recently, as a mark of especial esteem and respect from his colleagues in the University of Edinburgh, his bust was placed in the library of that institution.

THE INDIAN ENGINEERS' COLLEGE.

The mansion of Cooper's Hill, three miles from Egham, in Surrey, having been adapted and occupied for a College of Civil Engineering for the service of the Government of India, we give a view of the building. Its situation has a classical renown in old English literature, for it supplied Sir John Denham, the poet, who inhabited and owned the place in the time of Charles I., with an elegant subject of descriptive verse. The wooded slopes here rise from the bank of the Thames at Runnymede, where Magna Charta was signed by King John, to a moderate elevation. The hill commands a view as beautiful as that from St. Anne's Hill, Chertsey, and the towers of Windsor, standing out from amidst the woods of Windsor Park, give the prospect additional grandeur. The Thames glides beneath, as in the days when the poet desired to make it "his great example, as it was his theme—"

Though deep, yet clear; though gentle, yet not dull;
Strong, without rage; without overflowing full.

This poem of "Cooper's Hill" was first published in 1643, and has enjoyed the distinction of praise from two of the most critical English poets. Dryden pronounced it "the exact standard of good writing;" and Pope, in his "Windsor Forest," declared that, thanks to "majestic Denham,"

On Cooper's Hill eternal wreaths shall glow,
While lasts the mountain or while Thames shall flow.

The Cooper's Hill Estate was originally a part of that bestowed on the nunnery at Ankerwyke, in Buckinghamshire, on the opposite side of the Thames, in the time of King Stephen. In the reign of Charles I. it was the property of Sir John Denham, from whom it was sequestered after the Civil War. It then came into the possession of the family of Mr. G. S. Harcourt, the present owner of Ankerwyke, and, after passing through various hands during the last forty years, it was purchased by the Indian Government last year. Sir Matthew Digby Wyatt was employed as architect to fit it for its present use. By judicious alterations and additions to the existing mansion, and by the erection of an entirely new block, the buildings have been converted into a handsome college, with present accommodation for one hundred students. There are now fifty students in residence, and the number will be increased by fifty each year till the maximum of 150 has been reached. The studies involve a three-years' course, so that every year there will be fifty fresh students. Admission to the college is obtained by a competitive examination open to youths between seventeen and twenty one; the course of study comprising the theory of construction, mathematics, mechanics, the elementary principles of architecture, drawing, surveying (for thorough practice in which the locality is adapted), physical science, Hindustani, and accounts. Some portion of the three years will be employed in practical work, under a civil or mechanical engineer. The college staff comprises a president and eleven professors and instructors, but the whole of these will not be appointed in the first instance. All students qualifying successfully at the end of the course will be appointed to the engineer service of the Indian Government on salaries commencing at £420 per annum. The erection of an extensive new block of buildings has furnished, with the previously existing mansion, four class-rooms, a library, a reading-room, a lecture theatre, a model-room, a spacious dining-hall, a laboratory, a billiard-room, and a separate sleeping-room for each student. Accommodation is also provided for the president, with one married and three unmarried professors; other members of the professorial staff will be housed in five residences now being erected on the estate. The works have been carried out from the designs and under the superintendence of Sir Digby Wyatt, architect to the Indian Government, the contractors being Messrs. Ashby and Horner.

The president of the new college is Lieutenant-Colonel Chesney, R.E.; and on the staff are—Mr. Calcott Reilly (construction), the Rev. J. Wolstenholme (mathematics), Mr. McLeod (physical science), Mr. Edgcombe (surveying), Lieutenant J. S. Clarke, R.E. (instructor in mechanical drawing), Mr. Cotton Mather (lecturer in Hindustani), and Mr. Eaves (instructor in landscape-drawing).

A sad affair has taken place near Nuneaton, in Warwickshire. Dr. Eaton, a medical man of some standing, having been to visit a patient six miles off that place on Friday night, set off to return at about ten o'clock, and was found the next morning sitting on the side of the road, by his horse and trap, in a dying state. He had evidently missed his road, and, coming to a watercourse, had been thrown out, his clothes being saturated and stiff with frost. Brandy was administered, and he was taken home, but died soon after his arrival.

In a letter respecting the recent correspondence about the coining of silver, Mr. J. G. Hubbard remarks that—"It is quite true that silver rather than gold is the medium through which the wages of the labouring class are paid; but to show that the labouring classes are injured by the Mint regulations, it must be demonstrated that the shilling they now receive commands a smaller quantity of the necessities of life than would a shilling coined as an integral measure of value. The shilling now circulating derives its purchasing power, not from the silver it contains, but from its being by law a twentieth part of a pound, the golden standard."

FINE ARTS.

SKETCHES AND STUDIES AT THE OLD WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

The Winter Exhibition of this society does not usually afford the scope for criticism furnished by the summer display of finished drawings; and it must be admitted that in the present gathering there are not many contributions of importance, or of quite novel interest. In the slightness of a sketch, or the fragmentary character of a study, will, however, often be found a delightful suggestiveness, which, in the opinion of many, should be the sole aim and end with the limited means supplied by water colours. On the other hand, more exigent connoisseurs may find in these hastier and less complete efforts new evidence of the inherent weakness of the medium, and fresh proofs of superficial, imperfect artistic education in our school, especially as regards those painters who devote themselves exclusively to water colours.

Only one new member has been elected since the last exhibition—Mr. H. S. Marks. Like Mr. Dobson, who set the example of joining this society when already an Associate of the Academy, and who is now represented by two lifesize female heads, Mr. Marks presents nearly the same characteristics in water colours as in oil. His principal contribution is a half-length study of an aged nun, entitled "Even-song" (10): the face has character, but of rather prosaic order, without pathos; the colouring is a little clayey. The artist's real gift in landscape is shown in two or three studies, notably "Twilight" (288).

Other recently-enrolled members, such as North, A. Goodwin, and Pinwell, exhibit rather freely; indeed, to see so many incomplete studies by the young artist first named put forth publicly is suggestive of dangerous self-confidence. A small knot of artists have now got a footing in the Old Water-Colour Society, whose methods are totally opposed to the old "legitimate" practice. Mr. F. Walker is the head of the clique, and his technical procedures are too closely followed by Messrs. Pinwell, North, A. Goodwin, and others in Pall-mall East, and by some of the younger members of the junior society, for these disciples to claim the merit of originality, however gifted naturally. But, as usual, the technical peculiarities of the leader are exaggerated in the followers; while his more essentially artistic merits are not so readily reproducible. Mr. Walker himself has two tiny subjects, "A Girl at a Stile" (322), rich with autumnal colour, and "The Housewife" (355), a young woman sitting engaged at some culinary duty in the pleasant backyard of a cottage; both of which drawings are disappointing. The finishing with the point of the pencil is rather microscopic and mechanical than expressive and exquisite. There are, however, a sense of tone and a feeling for pictorial composition in these bits which are wanting in other productions of the same school here. Elsewhere we find the transparent and opaque or "body" colours embroiled and discordant; much of the work is quite "muzzy," unintelligible, and wanting in aerial perspective. A few details, though frequently rendered with consummate delicacy, are made out with disproportionate precision, and the outlines—of figures especially—are uniformly cutting and hard. Several of the peculiarities and affectations, as regards design, to which we advert are observable in some recent styles of wood-engraving, where, however, from the nature of the process and material, they are far more allowable. Our remarks are partially borne out by Mr. North's large sketch of "Beechen Hollow" (104), which should not have been publicly displayed, even in this winter exhibition: see the fumbled figures to the right, the ugly, unmeaning masses of the wooded hollow and hill beyond. Yet that Mr. North is a skilful draughtsman is shown in his "Head of a Girl" (154); and in all he sends there are isolated passages of great beauty. Similar observations occur to us before Mr. Pinwell's "Country Walk" (264), where, in nature, under the effect intended, the outlines of the lady and child, and of the grey Dobbin, would be occasionally lost in the background, not everywhere emphasised—as they are apt to be in frescoes, from the necessity of painting patches at one time. The illustration by the same artist of the ballad "The Earl o' Quarterdeck" (194)—a mediæval "skipper" making love to a "grand," but strangely rueful-looking, "princess" over a ship's helm, in the gloaming, with gulls swooping about the deck, is a wild, weird, Coleridge-like fancy, partially realised in washes of unpleasant opacity. We are sorry to see Mr. March turning from the nature and pathos of his coast subjects to the quasi-historical style and the formal unreality of "The Garden" (238), a chalk drawing, tinted, of a row of maidens in fifteenth-century costumes listening to a poet's recitation. The poet's figure is unfortunate in drawing and expression; the outlines are heavy enough almost for the leads of a stained-glass window, yet they are not firm, in the right sense of the word.

Mr. A. Goodwin is one of the least eccentric and improving of this knot of water-colour painters, to whom his manner shows affinity. His "April" (62), a field covered with primroses and wild hyacinths; his "Feeding-Time" (139), a man carrying wash to farm out-buildings, followed through the stubble by a troop of young pigs; and his "Derbyshire Hills" (195), which is laid in only with the first tints, are all very delicate and refined. Mr. Macbeth has a touching and complete little drawing, free from any affectation of treatment, though revealing a free use of body colour, entitled "An Empty Spindle" (314), an Alsatian weaver's cottage interior, we believe, with a young widowed mother weeping at the head of her babe's wooden cradle. Of all the new Associates, Mr. Hale's method is the most transparent, and it argues no small amount of observant knowledge and disciplined ability to render with so much decision and truth a bit of seashore as in No. 332. Mr. A. B. Houghton and several of the earlier members are among the absentees.

It is gratifying to find Mr. Gilbert signalling his accession to the presidency of this society (to which honour it is understood is to be added that of knighthood) with drawings—they are no less—so pregnant with all the painter's special and best qualities as the "Halt of Cavalry" (26), and No. 173, illustrating the description of battle in "Marmion." For the combination of inexhaustible fertility of resource, facility of composition, sense of the picturesque, mastery of action and grouping, spirit and strength of handling, and force of colouring, John Gilbert is unrivalled in our school. Note, as more than ordinarily happy in both these drawings, the picturesque groups of figures relieved along the horizon against the ascending dust and smoke and the lurid, lowering clouds. Among other figure-subjects may be mentioned "Under the Haycock" (41)—Scotch children romping in a hayfield—by Mr. Topham; Mr. Carl Haag's small and presumably early studies from Roman models; and Mr. Lundgren's excessively artificial beauties.

Mr. B. Bradley makes a mark in animal-drawing with his otter-hounds—first, finding the scent (224), and, in a pendant (285), at the death; but the touch, though spirited, is too monotonous. Mr. B. Willis is more, than usually happy in "Scene near Burnham, Somersetshire" (149)—a drawing very nice in feeling and sweet in execution, without being too velvety.

The collection contains much good architectural work. Mr. J. Nash sends a single but not unfavourable sample, No. 280. Mr. Burgess has not for some years exhibited anything so good as two or three of his studies here, but the details are still too loosely rendered, and the masses wanting in breadth of light and shade. Mr. Deane has also surpassed previous efforts in "Porch of San Fermo Maggiore, Verona" (101). Though rather insubstantial in effect, the colouring is deliciously tender and broken, and the rich details of the Romanesque and Italian Gothic architecture are made out with reverent care, yet without servile laboriousness. Mr. S. Read, in studies from "Rouen" (123) and "Chiselhurst Church" (163), evinces the skilful picturesque handling and descriptive treatment for which the artist is so deservedly esteemed. Mr. E. A. Goodall, in several sketches of Italian towns, is more spirited, vivacious, and effective than in his finished drawings. Space would fail us to particularise all the landscape studies and sketches of merit, more or less, not yet noticed. We must, however, invite attention to the evidence of bonâ fide work "on the spot" in some broadly-treated, truthful studies by Mr. E. Duncan; to the Yorkshire and other studies by Mr. Dodgeson, sparkling and brilliant, as usual, the speckle of the execution being, however, sometimes carried to excess; to the numerous contributions by Mr. C. Davidson, all distinguishable, or which should be distinguishable, by modest, quiet truth to nature; to the more conventional and monotonous yet artistically-felt and rendered Welsh scenes by Mr. T. Danby; to the extraordinary vigour and dexterity of manipulation in the sketches (see particularly No. 82) by Mr. T. M. Richardson which extorts admiration, though one is conscious of stereotyped repetition in the result; to the fine and vigorous Welsh sketch (207) by Mr. Whitaker; to the thoroughly well understood and strikingly accurate studies of rough seas by Mr. Powell; to the original and penetrative observation displayed in some small studies by Mr. Boyce, despite their photographic or pre-Raphaelite character; to some uncommonly manly work by Mr. B. Foster—notably "The Falls of the Tummel" (162), which, in the interest of the artist's reputation, should be compared with some pretty but trivial vignettes which he has sent; and to a study of a Welsh "Cascade in Shadow" (317), by Mr. Samuel Palmer, which in its close and literal naturalism is a curious contrast to the highly-conventionalised productions by which he has become known in recent years; besides contributions by Messrs. Branwhite, Andrews, Naftel, Jenkins, C. Smith, J. D. Watson, W. Collingwood, E. K. Johnson, and T. R. Lamont.

THE QUEEN'S HEALTH.

The Rev. Dr. Norman McLeod was one of a party who, yesterday week, assisted in breaking ground in connection with a new lunatic asylum for the barony parish at Lenzie junction, near Glasgow. At an entertainment which followed, the chairman, in giving the toast of the Queen, referred to the health of her Majesty, and asked Dr. McLeod, as having recently returned from Balmoral, whether he felt at liberty to say anything on the subject. Dr. McLeod said:—

"What is meant by her Majesty being 'morally and mentally incapacitated for work' I leave Mr. Disraeli to explain, for I do not comprehend it. I beg to say that I have had the honour, in the Providence of God, to minister to her Majesty in public and in private for the last thirteen or fourteen years, and I have seen her in every variety of circumstances—in the highest prosperity and happiness which any married woman, not to speak of a Queen, could enjoy, and in the very depth of her distress; and I declare most solemnly, although speaking with her in the greatest privacy and in the most intimate communion that a subject and a clergyman can have, I have never heard her utter one word or one sentiment that did not do the highest honour to her Majesty whether as a Queen or a woman. I have not only never seen the remotest trace of any moral or mental weakness, but I have seen in every instance remarkable evidence of moral and mental strength and capacity. Her Majesty has just passed through a severe attack of rheumatic gout, which so affected her hands that for a time she was utterly unable to sign her name, and from a severe neuralgia from which she has entirely recovered, and I have never seen her better in spirits or better in health or stronger in mind than she is at the present moment. At the same time, I am far from saying that she has recovered her strength so as to be able to do more than she is doing; for I make bold to say that none of us have the slightest conception of the unceasing demand that is made upon a person in her high position of attending to innumerable details, and carrying burdens upon her mind without the possibility of one moment's rest. Our own wives find how trying upon their nervous energy is the constant care of a large family; but when we think what the Queen has to do as a mother, with her children occupying such an important position in society, what she has to do in being compelled ever to think about the affairs of a nation to whose interests she is profoundly devoted, when we think of the constant weight that must ever be upon her mind, we feel the wonder is that she is able to perform her duties in the way that she has done. No one who knows the Queen but knows she would do all that is possible for her to do, and no one who knows her but is amazed at her extraordinary consideration for everyone, how she occupies her thought upon every subject, and how she attends to such minute details of duty. I will take it upon me to say that the case of the poorest subject in her kingdom, if made known to her, would receive her immediate attention. Let me also say the manner in which the Queen is often criticised is a cruel and cowardly injustice, when neither as a woman nor as a Queen she can make any reply, but must endure the injustice. While such attacks may be made by a few, I feel certain that the large majority of this nation so revere the Monarch who occupies the throne, and so esteem her unblemished personal character and the manner in which during her reign she has discharged her public and private duties, that, could they utter it, they, with one voice, would unite with us when we say, God save the Queen, and may she be long preserved to the nation!"

Mr. Disraeli has been provoked by the speech of the Rev. Dr. McLeod to explain his alleged statement with respect to the incapacity of her Majesty for work. He denies that the words imputed to him were ever used in the sense suggested, and declares that his remarks went to show that her Majesty's capacity for business, distinguished from the first by method and promptness, had now, by long experience, become so eminent that it greatly assisted and facilitated the conduct of public affairs.

A public meeting was held at Birmingham, on Thursday week, at which it was resolved to raise a subscription, to the amount of £3000, to perpetuate the memory of Dr. Priestley, the great chemist, who resided at Birmingham eleven years. It is proposed to purchase the site of his house, to raise a public statue in the town, and to endow a science scholarship, open to the students in any part of the kingdom.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

Newcastle-on-Tyne seems to be the chosen platform just now for reformers of all sorts. Scarcely have the republican bubbles which Sir Charles Dilke has been blowing in that town a moment floated, quivered, burst, and died, than there comes to the front Sir Wilfrid Lawson—who, but for a certain puerility of voice, would be at once so sturdy and so epigrammatic—running atilt with all his force against Mr. Bass, who, in his cool, steady way, has been flouting the total abstinents, and contending that there are other cups besides cups of tea which cheer and need not inebriate. Positively, Sir Wilfrid's virtuous indignation at the bare suggestion that every crime, every lapse from virtue, every domestic jar, every undutiful son, every runaway daughter, and every case in the Divorce Court are directly, and without meandering, instigated by tipping and its aggregate sequence, is very impressive. Possibly he may have caught a new vigour and impulse from the fact that he had placed on his right hand a new follower; for Mr. Otto Trevelyan, M.P., was also amongst the permissive liquor prophets at Newcastle. It is just probable that this hon. and critical gentleman found lecturing on abuses so agreeable a vocation in the recess of last year that he is glad to join any mission which gives him opportunity for exercising his faculty in that way. At any rate, he made the occasion, when he was tentatively urging the case of that body which would have it law that a bare majority of a district shall de-alcoholise a remonstrant and protesting minority, a means of offering the olive branch to the Government, which he left in a pet, and which does not seem to think that he has yet, even by his uncompromising support of their Army Bill last Session, condoned the offence of leaving them on a question of mere principle; for he pointedly professed himself an admirer of the Ministry, and was their most adroit excuser, though there was something about what he said which might lead to an inference that he was suggesting that they wanted some of his quickening influence which had proved so effectual in regard to Army reform. Still he cannot, of course, help being under that inspiration, which, if he have in him any hereditary ideas, must induce him to believe that mankind is composed of men, women, and Trevellyans.

Possibly there is not in the House a young member who is (really not without cause) so under the influence of self-belief as Lord Claud John Hamilton, except, perhaps, his brother, Lord George of that name; and yet, so far as the ordinary chroniclers are to be trusted, in a speech which he has been recently delivering to his constituents at King's Lynn, there is scarcely any trace of that (if the word may be excused) cockiness which characterises him in his place in Parliament. One almost rubbed one's eyes when one read of his talking of the Washington Treaty as a great work, calculated to produce great and happy results; saying that the terms offered by the Government for the abolition of purchase in the Army were not illiberal, though he did not exactly approve of the principle on which the abolition was based; and suchlike mild and half-appreciative criticisms, quite out of keeping with the tone which is adopted by those Tory members who go about puffing out platitudes in regard to the existence of a Conservative reaction in the country.

There be those who were perhaps surprised to find, at the last election, Mr. Pemberton suddenly advanced from the rear rank of the Chancery Bar to the dignity of a county member; but then everyone knew that there were good reasons for this, qualifications which, in more or less olden times, were abundantly adequate for a bucolical representative, though, to some extent, we have changed all that now; and classically-given Ministers do not quote Latin in the belief that, it being not understood by the country gentlemen, it will have a great effect upon them. So Mr. Pemberton is not at all out of place as a county member; and he is diligent to be in his place in the House, and intervenes modestly and not perfunctorily when details of measures are in discussion. Nevertheless, he suggests the idea that the yeomanry regiment in which he is a Major must, in common fitness with its field officer, be heavy cavalry. He has lately been distinguishing himself by a sharp and by no means ineffective retort upon Sir Charles Dilke, and thus contributing to that chuckling enjoyment which that honourable and subacid gentleman has gained by being the best-abused person of the hour.

Amongst struggling-to-rise young Conservative members, Mr. Kennaway, who was returned for East Devon in the spring of last year, deserves honourable mention. The style he adopts is well adapted to gain the ear of sober Parliamentarians and politicians, for he exhibits qualities which, if the phrase were not too coarse, we should say will wash. He is curiously free from affectation, though in all he says he seems to desire to indicate that he is a man of thought, and has studied politics from a practical as well as from an æsthetic point of view; that he has no ambition to become a flashy member; but that he is composed of that material out of which useful and industrious under-secretaries are made. Why on his very first essay Mr. Chaplin should have at once gained the hushed attention of the House is obvious, in a certain sense, though that is not a Parliamentary sense. A fervid compliment from Mr. Gladstone, which was paid to Mr. Chaplin on account of his *coup d'essai*, did much towards establishing for him that sort of right to be heard which attaches itself peculiarly to some members, and he has availed himself of it with a moderation which is likely to help him to keep the privilege. There is no doubt that he has always something to say which would be worth hearing if he could bring it out smoothly and fluently; but, as it is, he is probably nervous, and his ideas rather struggle from his lips than take prompt and ready shape in his elocution. In Lincolnshire, when he speaks politics, as he was doing the other day, no doubt he is as great an oracle as he must be when he hints a racing opinion, and that is saying a great deal. With him was his colleague, Colonel Amcotts, who is the most soldierly-looking man in the House, though he has only been a cornet of dragoons, a major of militia, and is now a colonel of volunteers. He is a neophyte member, having been returned from the new district of Mid-Lincolnshire in 1868, and has spoken once for five minutes in Committee on the Army.

That curious conglomeration of personages who celebrate the natal day of Colston, the renowned philanthropist of Bristol, by two rival political festivities, has duly appeared this year. At the Liberal gathering the novelty was the making Mr. Chichester Fortescue the high priest of the ceremonies, and it would seem with a remarkable but not improbable result, for it is evident that his ponderous oration, delivered in that wearisome, sing-song tone which is his characteristic, extinguished every one else. Mr. Morley avowedly reserving his speech for a coming meeting of his constituents, and Mr. Kirkman Hodgson being only spasmodically humorous. At the Conservative symposium there was a choice between the inconsequence of Sir George Jenkinson, the high-pitched Toryism of Lord John Manners, and the low-pitched common-places of Sir Stafford Northcote; and even Mr. Greene, who had been brought all the way from Bury St. Edmunds to do the comic business, was scarcely a relief.

NEW MAYORS.

We give the names of the gentlemen elected, as far as returns have reached us, to be Mayors for the ensuing year:—

Abingdon—John Tompkins.	Leicester—J. Stafford (re-elected).
Andover—William Gue (re-elected).	Leominster—J. Jackson.
Aberystwith—T. Jones.	Lichfield—F. A. Symonds.
Arundel—W. W. Mitchell (re-elected).	Lincoln—W. Harrison.
Ashton-under-Lyne—Ald. F. A. Frost.	Liverpool—John Pearson.
Beiton—W. W. Cannon.	Loughborough—T. W. Barlow.
Barrow-in-Furness—J. Ramsden (6th time).	Lynn—John Dyer Thew.
Bath—J. Hulbert (re-elected).	Langport—Barnes Bagshot.
Batley—R. Dex Keightley.	Louth, Lincolnshire—Ald. Crosswell.
Bedford—Dr. James Coombs.*	Lymington, Hants—Edward King.
Beverley—John Almack.	Middlesbrough—George Vaughan.
Bideford—J. How (re-elected).	Morpeth—G. B. Chirney.
Birmingham—Alderman Sadler.	Manchester—Ald. William Booth.
Blackburn—T. Bury.	Macclesfield—John B. Wadsworth.
Boston—J. Gask (re-elected).	Maldon—J. G. Sadd.
Bradford—M. Thompson.	Marlborough—D. P. Maurice.
Bridgenorth—T. Deighton.	Newark—Bramston.
Bridgewater—F. Nicolls (re-elected).	Newbury—Samuel Flint.
Brighton—J. C. Burrows.	Newport, Isle of Wight—Alderman W. B. Mew.
Burnley—J. H. Scott.	Newcastle-on-Tyne—T. L. Gregson.
Bristol—W. P. Baker.	Newcastle-under-Lyne—T. Bayley.
Bury St. Edmunds—H. Le Grice (5th time).	Newport—David Harrihy.
Banbury—Joseph Malsbury.	Northampton—H. Marshall.
Barnsley—Alderman John Tyas (re-elected).	Norwich—R. Chamberlain.
Basingstoke—Glover.	Nottingham—W. G. Ward.
Beaumaris—John Slater.	Oldham—A. Crompton.
Beebles—T. A. Laws.	Oswestry—C. T. Bayley.
Berwick-on-Tweed—Alexander Smith.	Oxford—J. R. Card (third time).
Bewdley—Alderman T. Owens.	Penzance—Alderman Bramwell.
Bridport—Thomas Beach.	Pole—Harker (re-elected).
Cambridge—S. Peak (re-elected).	Portsmouth—J. Baker (re-elected).
Canterbury—W. Linom.	Plymouth—Isaac Laimer.
Carlisle—J. Irving.	Preston—Alderman Miles.
Colchester—C. H. Hawkins (re-elect.).	Reading—W. Bandy.
Coventry—W. H. Hill.	Ripon—H. Kearsley (re-elected).
Chester—Alderman R. Frost.	Rochdale—W. Shawcross.
Chesterfield—John Marsden.	Rochester—W. Woodhams.
Chichester—R. G. Raper (re-elected).	Ryde—James Dashwood.
Chippengham—William B. Wood.	Reigate—W. B. Waterlow (re-elected).
Cliitheroe—John Mitchell.	Romsey—W. B. George.
Conceton—James Pearson.	Rotherham—J. M. Habershon.
Darlington—C. Janson.	Salisbury—John Henry Jackson.
Derby—Samuel Leech.	Scarborough—Dr. W. F. Rooke (re-elected).
Devonport—J. May (re-elected).	Sheffield—Alderman Moore.
Dewsbury—M. Newsome.	Shields (South)—E. Moore (re-elected).
Doncaster—W. O. Clark.	Shrewsbury—J. Southam.
Dorchester—R. Damsen.	South Molton—J. White.
Dover—R. Dickson.	Southampton—H. J. Buchan.
Dudley—Alderman G. Bagott.	Stafford—W. Gibson.
Deal—Alderman Bird.	Stockton—G. Lockwood.
Denbigh—Thomas Gee.	Stamford—W. V. Law.
Devizes—S. Witley.	Sunderland—W. Nicholson (re-elected).
Droitwich—William Nutt (re-elected).	Swansea—J. Glasbrook.
Durham—Alderman White.	Salford—Alderman Barlow.
Exeter—Joseph Harding.	St. Albans—Edward S. Wiles.
Evesham—W. T. Allard.	Sandwich—H. J. Emmerson.
Eye—George W. Lawton.	Southwold—J. E. Grubbe.
Faversham—Alderman Charles Bryant.	Stockport—Alderman J. Walthew.
Folkestone—John Hoad.	Stratford-on-Avon—R. Gibbs.
Falmouth—W. H. Lean.	Sudbury—G. W. Andrews.
Godalming—Alderman Simmonds.	Shaftesbury—Dr. Wilkinson.
Godmanchester—Captain Rooper.	Stalybridge—Ralph Dates.
Grimby—T. W. Winttingham (re-elected).	Southport—W. Smith (re-elected).
Guildford—Alderman Shoobridge.	Tamworth—E. Hooper (re-elected).
Gateshead—R. Hodgson.	Tiverton—J. Wells (re-elected).
Gloucester—Alderman Knight.	Torrington—N. Chapple.
Grantham—Henry Bell.	Truro—W. H. Jenkins.
Harwich—John Vaux (re-elected).	Tynemouth—Alexander Adamson.
Hastings—Alderman Ross.	Thetford—Alderman L. C. Bidwell.
Hertford—Charles Adams.	Wallingford—Alderman Payne.
Huntingdon—Bateman Brown.	Windsor—H. W. Jones.
Ilalifax—J. Hutchinson.	Wakefield—W. H. Bedford Tomlinson.
Harley—Edwin Powell.	Walsall—E. Holden (re-elected).
Hartlepool—C. Nielson (re-elected).	Warwick—J. Tibbetts, M.D.
Hereford—E. C. Desley.	Wells—W. Dore (re-elected).
Huddersfield—W. Mellor.	Weymouth—J. Robertson.
Hull—R. Jamson (re-elected).	Wigan—Nathaniel Eckersley (re-elected).
Inswich—G. G. Sampson (fourth time).	Wishbech—Ford.
Kendal—J. Thompson.	Winchester—R. Fourtler.
Kidderminster—W. Boycott.	Wolverhampton—J. Ford.
London—Ald. Gibbons (Lord Mayor).	Worcester—H. Willis.
Lancaster—Charles Blades.	Wrexham—J. B. Murless.
Launceston—W. F. Pearce.	Yarmouth—E. H. L. Preston (re-elected).
Leeds—J. Barron (re-elected).	York—W. Walker (Lord Mayor).

* Mr. John Howard was elected to the Mayoralty of Bedford for the fifth time; but having, on account of his great age, declined to serve, Dr. James Coombs was, last week, unanimously chosen by the Council to fill the chair for the ensuing year.

† At an adjourned meeting of the Salisbury Town Council, last week, Mr. George Richardson, having declined to take the office of Mayor of that city, to which he had been unanimously appointed, Mr. John Henry Jackson was elected in his stead, and a fine of £100 was imposed on Mr. Richardson for his refusal to qualify.

A jeweller's shop at Reigate was entered one night last week, and property was stolen to the amount of £500. The burglars seized a dog which was kept on the premises, got him into the cellar, and cut his throat.

A large number of Roman Catholic clergy and laity were present, yesterday week, at the Roman Catholic Missionary College, Mill-hill, Hendon, when a sermon was preached by Archbishop Manning, preparatory to the departure of missionaries to the negroes in the Southern States of America.

James Finchen, a shopman in the employ of Mr. Hewson, ironmonger, Gravesend, was examining a loaded revolver which had been brought into the shop by a customer, when the charge exploded and the bullet passed through his right eye into the brain, causing instantaneous death.

The court-martial on the loss of the Megara, after hearing a concluding statement from Captain Thrupp, yesterday week, delivered judgment. They fully and honourably acquitted Captain Thrupp and his officers and crew, being convinced that the course pursued by them was perfectly justifiable. The Captain's sword was thereupon returned to him. This result was, of course, fully anticipated, and the more important investigation will now devolve upon the Royal Commission.

The British branch of the International Decimal Association has addressed a circular to the German Government, in which regrets are expressed that, in the scheme for the proposed reform of the German coinage, a new unit is adopted which is directly at variance with the recommendations of the International Statistical Congress held at Berlin in 1863, and with those of the International Decimal Association, which, at its meeting in 1867, resolved that it was advisable for international purposes that a single standard should be adopted in all countries; that this standard should be gold; and that, considering the extensive use of the decimal system and the time and labour which it saved in computation, the unit of money value in all countries should be decimally subdivided. While the International Decimal Association rejoices at the disposition of the German Government to introduce a gold coinage, yet it is of opinion that a single standard cannot be realised unless regulations are made to retain the others for subordinate coins only. None of the proposed gold coins offer any point of agreement with the pound sterling or the 25-f. piece. The 20-mark piece, which comes nearest, is less valuable than either. The mark, or the third of a thaler, is, in the opinion of the British branch of the International Decimal Association, too small a unit for the present requirements of commerce, and neither a good unit for reckoning nor identical with any coin of other countries. Between the gold coins of 5, 6 2-3, and 10 thaler pieces, and between them and the silver coins, there is no true decimal connection.

A GAME AT FOOTBALL.

The humours of football-playing are nowhere better understood or exhibited by boys or men than in Tom Brown's Schooldays at Rugby. That famous match between the schoolhouse and the whole school is a classical instance which may explain to the uninitiated spectator the chief features of this game as played by full-grown men at Kennington Oval or any other ground frequented by the London clubs. The rules, indeed, have undergone some modification in a few minor particulars, but the character of the sport is not essentially changed. Two rival bands of athletes, who don't mind kicking shins, much less treading of toes, and who like hustling as well as running, contend with each other for the mastery, in a fiercer spirit than the matched elevens at cricket. The disputed matter is this, which of them shall drive the air-filled leather ball quite over the goal belonging to the opposite party. The goal on each side consists of a cross-bar fixed between a pair of upright poles, at twice the height of a fellow's head above the ground. The ball must be made to fly directly over the cross-bar, not merely to go between or beside the posts.

At the outset of a game the forces of each side are carefully organised and distributed for the various services required. There is no limit of numbers to play. In the van, approaching towards the middle of the ground, are the skilful "players-up;" while those appointed to guard their own goal are kept "in quarters," and stationed at intervals of five yards in a line across the ground, half way between the players-up and the goal. They have to turn the ball if it comes their way, or to secure it for their own party if it passes the bounds of play at the sides of the ground, where it may be picked up with the hand and deliberately kicked back into the midst of the scuffle. But it is not unusual, when the conflict rages with its utmost fury, to see all the players engaged in a terrific mêlée, which tries their collective strength of limb, their aggregate weight of body, and their united courage and joint resolve, leaving no room for scientific arrangements. A "scrimmage," in which the ball is made the centre of a struggling, heaving, writhing mass of combatants, striving together with shoulder to shoulder and with knee to knee, trying, by the incessant kicks of twenty or thirty booted feet, to send the tormented object of their contention out of the hostile throng, is the most glorious moment of this uncompromising game. There are the "bulldogs," in the very midst of the crush, giving and receiving, inflicting and enduring the wickedest punishment, without the slightest anger. Here come the "chargers," heavy, headlong, ferocious in the onslaught, plunging from outside into the thickest of the crowd, trampling over the fallen, breaking a passage for the ball out through the other side. Around the skirts of the scrimmage, keenly watching every chance of an opening, hover the lurking "dodgers," who are to seize the ball if it rolls out from amongst the clustered multitude, and speed it away to their antagonists' goal. The light and nimble, as well as the bulky and mighty, find useful employment in this game. Promptitude of action, with pluck and hardihood, will do more than skill.

One of the great matches of this season took place at Kennington Oval on Saturday last, under the direction of the Football Association of London. It was between an English and a Scottish eleven, composed of members of different local clubs or public-school clubs; the captain of the English being Mr. C. W. Alcock, of the Wanderers; and Lieutenant Renny Tailyour, R.E., being captain of the Scottish party. The play of Messrs. A. C. Thompson, of Cambridge; E. Lubbock, of the Old Etonians; R. W. Vidal, of Westminster School; and R. Walker, of the Clapham Rovers, was distinguished on the English side; and that of Messrs. Ferguson, Woolwich Military Academy; Nepean, of Oxford; and W. Lindsay, Old Wykehamist, on the Scottish side. The match resulted in favour of the English, they winning two goals, and the Scottish side but one.

WEEKLY RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The Registrar-General gives the following return of births and deaths in London and in nineteen other large towns of the United Kingdom during the week ending Nov. 17:—

In London 2076 births and 1626 deaths were registered. After making due allowance for increase of population, the births were 176 and the deaths 59 below the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths showed an increase of 261 upon those returned in the previous week. The 1626 deaths in London last week included 76 from smallpox, 49 from measles, 40 from scarlet fever, 6 from diphtheria, 36 from whooping-cough, 39 from different forms of fever (of which 5 were certified as typhus, 27 as enteric or typhoid, and 7 as simple continued fever), and 17 from diarrhoea. Thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 263 deaths were referred last week, against 265 and 241 in the two preceding weeks. The fatal cases of smallpox, measles, and scarlet fever each showed an increase upon the numbers in recent weeks, while those of whooping-cough, fever, and diarrhoea had declined. The increase of the deaths registered in London last week was most conspicuous in the fatal cases of bronchitis, the natural result of the unseasonably cold weather which has recently prevailed. The deaths referred to this disease, which in the three previous weeks had been 179, 190, and 180, rose last week to 287, exceeding by 81 the corrected average weekly number for the corresponding week of the ten years 1861-70. Of the 287 last week, 138 were of children under five years of age, and 103 of persons aged sixty years and upwards. The deaths from pneumonia and phthisis showed but slight variations from the numbers in the previous week.

During the week 4779 births and 3747 deaths were registered in London and nineteen other large cities and towns of the United Kingdom. The aggregate mortality last week in these towns was at the rate of 27 deaths annually to every 1000 persons estimated to be living. The annual rates of mortality last week in the seventeen English cities and towns were as follow:—London, 26 per 1000; Portsmouth, 23; Norwich, 37; Bristol, 26; Wolverhampton, 43; Birmingham, 25; Leicester, 22; Nottingham, 26; Liverpool, 28; Manchester, 31; Salford, 25; Bradford, 26; Leeds, 25; Sheffield, 29; Hull, 22; Sunderland, 42; and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 32. The fatal cases of smallpox in these seventeen towns, which in the two previous weeks had been 177 and 153, rose last week to 197—a higher number than has been returned in any week since the middle of August last. The epidemic showed a considerably-increased fatality last week in Norwich, Wolverhampton, and Sheffield. In Edinburgh the annual rate of mortality from all causes was 25 per 1000 persons living; in Glasgow, 30 per 1000; and in Dublin, 28.

An army pensioner named Johnston died on Monday, in Cork, of starvation. £199 was found upon him.

One workshop in the Royal Laboratory at Woolwich Arsenal is now devoted almost exclusively to the manufacture of marine torpedoes.



A MATCH AT FOOTBALL: THE LAST "SCRIMAGE."

MUSIC.

THE OPERA.

Repetitions of performances recently noticed have formed the attractions at the Royal Italian Opera House for the week preceding Monday last, when "Don Giovanni" was given, with some features identical with those of its representation last season, and others new to this occasion. To speak of the latter first—Mdlle. Devries appeared as Zerlina, this making the third character represented by her since her debut here three weeks ago. Mdlle. Devries gave a spirited and lively representation of the village coquette, wanting, however, somewhat in rustic simplicity, and a little too self-conscious in its archness and vivacity. She sang with much neatness and good taste in the duet with Don Giovanni, "La ci darem," which, however, did not obtain the customary encore; nor did either of Zerlina's airs, "Batti, batti," or "Vedrai carino," the latter of which was the best of the singer's efforts. Mdlle. Titiens repeated her well-known fine performance of Donna Anna, occasionally showing traces of her recent indisposition. In the opening scene of the murder of her father, in that of the discovery of the murderer in Don Giovanni, and in other important situations, her acting and singing were full of dramatic power. The airs "Or sai" and "Non mi dir" were finely given, especially the earlier portion of the latter. Mdlle. Colombo, as Elvira, was more efficient in the pathetic than in the demonstrative passages. Her airs, "Ah chi mi dice" and "Mi tradi," were both well sung and deservedly applauded. Signor Mendioroz sang with much refinement of style as Don Giovanni, and acted with discretion, if not quite fulfilling the conditions of one of the most difficult of operatic characters. Signor Vizzani, as Don Ottavio, sang carefully, and was much applauded, in "Il mio tesoro," his delivery of which, however, was somewhat hard. Signor Borella infused too much of the broad buffo style into his Leporello, which he made rather too grotesque. In its way, however, it was a clever piece of acting, and he was much applauded, especially in his song "Madamina," which was far better acted than sung. Signor Foli's fine voice told with good effect in his accustomed part of the Commandant. Other characters call for no comment.

At this week's Monday Popular Concert Mr. Charles Hallé was the solo pianist, as also at the first of the Saturday afternoon performances, last week. On the earlier occasion the eminent pianist played Beethoven's solo sonata, op. 7, and Schubert's first trio with violin and violoncello; and on Monday Schubert's sonata in A minor and Mozart's sonata in A major, with violin. The concerted pieces in each case were given with the association of Madame Norman-Neruda as violinist and Signor Piatti as violoncellist: it is scarcely necessary to say with what excellent effect. The pieces for stringed instruments only were, on Saturday, Beethoven's second quartet, and a violoncello solo by Veracini; and on Monday Mendelssohn's first quartet (in E flat) and Beethoven's "Serenade" trio. The violinist and violoncellist have already been named, and their associates were, as usual, Messrs. L. Ries (second violin) and Zerbini (viola). Miss Alice Fairman was the vocalist on Saturday, Herr Stockhausen on Monday; the accompanist in the former instance Sir J. Benedict, in the latter Mr. Zerbini.

The Crystal Palace concert following the special performance in memory of the death of Mendelssohn (on Nov. 4) continued the illustration of that composer by the performance of his charming concert-overture "Melusine," and his sixth organ sonata, played by Dr. Stainer, whose skill as an organist has before been spoken of by us in reference to his execution of a similar piece at a previous Crystal Palace concert. The programme of Saturday week also included Mr. Macfarren's clever and skilfully-instrumented overture to "Romeo and Juliet," performed for the first time at these concerts; Beethoven's second symphony (in D) and one of Bach's organ preludes and fugues, performed by Dr. Stainer, besides vocal pieces by Mdlle. Colombo and Signor Foli.

At last Saturday's concert (the eighth of the present series) the illustration of Mendelssohn was his "Lobgesang" ("Hymn of Praise"), that noble work in which the features of the orchestral symphony and the vocal cantata are happily combined in novel association with a religious purpose. Had the composer lived, it was his intention to have produced two more such works, these being among the many losses that musical art has sustained by his premature death. No doubt the form of the "Lobgesang" was suggested to Mendelssohn by the choral symphony of Beethoven, in which a grand orchestral work is supplemented by a vocal setting of Schiller's "Ode to Joy;" but this is secular—the other, as already said, sacred. The fine allegro, with the preceding announcement of the chorale-like subject that runs through it and reappears in the cantata, the exquisite allegretto, and the deeply-religious adagio, were all given with admirable effect by the excellent orchestra conducted by Mr. Manns. The tenor solo music had the advantage of the splendid singing of Mr. Sims Reeves; the principal soprano solos were sung, with bright quality of voice, by Miss Sophie Löwe; and Mdlle. Vinta ably sustained the second soprano part in the lovely duet, "I waited for the Lord." The choruses were effectively sung by the Crystal Palace choir, and Mr. Coward presided skilfully at the organ. Two novelties were produced at Saturday's concert—an overture, by Miss Alice Mary Smith, entitled "Endymion;" and a piece by Haydn, of the same description, but probably a detached finale from an early symphony. The lady's production shows some acquaintance with orchestral writing and cleverness in imitating well-known effects, which, as well as the ideas expressed, are mostly derived from familiar sources. Such a piece of "programme-music" as this pretends to be requires originality and power that are nowhere displayed in Miss Smith's overture. Haydn's composition is an early work (1770), and weak in comparison with his subsequent symphonies. It contains, however, many traces of the style of the great master in its fluency and continuity, and in its genial melodiousness. The remainder of Saturday's programme consisted of the romance "Va, dit-elle," from Meyerbeer's "Robert le Diable," which Miss Löwe sang with bright quality of voice and generally good execution, a slight occasional tendency to sing sharp having, perhaps, arisen chiefly from nervousness; and Miss Vinta's execution of the air, "O quante volte," from Bellini's "I Montecchi," which displayed considerable flexibility, if not much power.

A performance was given, last week, by M. Delaborde, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on a new instrument just manufactured by Messrs. Broadwood, and entitled "Pedalier Grand Piano-forte." The specialty consists in the application of a range of pedal keys to the lower octaves of the manual keyboard, thus giving the performer an advantage similar to the addition of a third hand, or even of a second pair of hands. Harpsichords and clavichords have been constructed with pedals, even so long back as the period of Bach and Handel; but the mechanism applied by Messrs. Broadwood admits of a modification of power and tone scarcely before realised by such means. The qualities of the instrument, combining grandeur

and sweetness, commanded universal admiration from an audience that comprised many eminent musical professors.

We are now fairly launched into the winter musical season, as specially upheld by the Monday Popular Concerts, the Oratorio Concerts—the recent commencement of each already recorded—and the Sacred Harmonic Society, whose opening concert of their fortieth year, announced for yesterday (Friday) evening, must be noticed next week. By these important institutions, and the continuing Crystal Palace concerts, winter music in London, after the approaching close of the opera, will be chiefly sustained until returning spring shifts the interest into other channels.

A notice of the two new cantatas performed on Wednesday evening at St. James's Hall appears in another column.

THE THEATRES.

ROYAL COURT.

The Chelsea theatre yet maintains its character for respectability and originality. On Monday a new piece was produced, "a new and original comedy-drama, in three acts," entitled "Coals of Fire," by Mr. H. T. Craven. The author himself performs the principal part, which bears a certain analogy to "Milky White." The characteristics of his style are well known. An actor as well as an author, the dialogue of his dramas is exactly measured to the capacities of his audience and the requirements of the stage. Yet he is something better than a mere theatrical writer, and has in him a vein of moral feeling, which penetrates beneath the surface of society, and detects the human heart in its secret beatings, its sorrows, and its joys. Above all, there is great individuality in his portraits. At the head of the present list is Mr. Jormel (Mr. John Clayton), a company-director, with great pretensions to honourable dealing, but so devoted to his own interests that he is not to be trusted in any transaction. He has as governess in his family one Edith Ricketts (Miss M. Brennan), an excellent person, whom his son, as worldly and mercenary as himself, pretends to love, after having deserted Ella Roland (Miss M. Oliver), a speculator's daughter. The fact is, father and son have conspired to possess a fortune which they have heard will fall to Edith; but they are foiled by Wentworth Parmesan, Esq., of Waterhole Manor (Mr. W. Belford), who is the friend of the dying testator by whom the Ricketts family is to be benefited. The question at the commencement of the play is whether Job Ricketts, the father, a reduced market-gardener, can be admitted into the family of the Jormels. Edith is resolved that her father shall share her prosperity; but old Jormel has a private interview with him, and induces him to accept £50 and promise to depart for Australia. An old acquaintance, Festil, a returned convict (Mr. Ed. Righton), contrives to rob him of this money, and thus manages to detain him in England; and we afterwards find him in the position of a porter at a family hotel in Southampton, where he again meets with his daughter and the Jormels, the latter plotting how to escape the consequences of embezzlement. The curtain falls upon the arrest of the elder Jormel, while the younger, who has thrown off Edith, seeks to recover, but in vain, the affections of Ella Roland. The latter, a worldly but noble-hearted woman, takes Edith under her protection; and in the third act we find that Job Ricketts has become the proprietor of Oakleigh Lodge by the will of the testator, who has all along acted under the direction of Parmesan. He is now the gentleman, and Jormel, who has been tried at the Old Bailey, is in the utmost poverty. Job heaps "coals of fire on his head" by helping him in his distress and providing that he and his son shall have another start in life. Edith is solaced for her misfortune by marrying a brother of Ella Roland, and Parmesan is found worthy of the hand of the latter. We could have wished that this drama had received another title, as we cannot concede the propriety of Scripture phrases, however apt, being made the appellations of stage exhibitions. However, the intention of the piece is admirable, and the acting throughout excellent. But "the manners," as they are classically called, are not exactly to our taste. All the characters, except the father and daughter, are more or less criminal, down to the servant at the hotel; but all are supposed in the end to repent of their misdeeds, except the Jormels, who, though forgiven, maintain to the last their selfish characteristics, and will, no doubt, in their future life repeat the errors of their past. The author appears to be desirous of showing that, under Providence, all events, however tainted with evil motives, will work together for the benefit of the virtuous. But in the combination of these events he presents a view of society which we cannot thoroughly recognise as true. We cannot even concede their probability. They may only be accepted as theatrical pictures, in which we habitually compound for much exaggeration, and expect to find as much of caricature as of character.

HENGLE'S CIRQUE.

A new spectacle has been added to the entertainments at the Cirque, in Argyle-street, in which the proprietor has judiciously taken a hint from the management of Drury Lane. It is called "The Lists of Ashby," and recalls the drama and romance of "Ivanhoe." The Black Knight, of course, forms a prominent figure in the group, and the various contests in which he is engaged are interesting both from association and the manner in which they are conducted. The complications are dazzling, and the entire show is very magnificent. The grotesque is added to the grander effects by the pranks of the two Clowns, Franks and Martini, who, in their burlesque armour and accoutrements, provoke boundless mirth among the spectators. The whole forms an important addition to the general entertainments.

The general treasurers of the Wesleyan Missionary Society have received £1000 from "W. H. R."

Lord Dalhousie laid the foundation-stone of a new Free Church at Monifieth, Forfarshire, on Monday.

The directors of the Bank of England, on Thursday week, reduced the rate of discount from 5 to 4 per cent.

Tuesday's Gazette contains the official notification of the fact that baronetcies have been conferred upon Mr. Thomas Graham Briggs, of Barbadoes, and Dr. Robert Christison, of Edinburgh.

There are six schemes for connecting the opposite shores of the Severn—three by bridges at Sharpness, two by high-level bridges from Tidenham and Caldicot respectively to Almondsbury, and the sixth by tunnel at Portskewet.

Mr. Clibborn, a bank manager at Dublin, much respected and moving in good society, went, on Monday, to Mount Jerome Cemetery, in the above city, and blew out his brains. In his hat was found a statement that he had speculated largely in shares, under the advice of a friend, who now pressed for immediate payment of liabilities the deceased could not meet. In another paper he asked to be buried in the grave of his child. A coroner's jury has found that the deceased committed suicide while in a state of unsound mind. His accounts at the bank were found perfectly correct.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

A new work by Stephen Heller, published by Messrs. Boosey and Co., is especially welcome to all who value charm and grace of style in combination with technical constructive skill. There is at present such profusion of servile imitation and such dearth of independent thought in piano-forte music that we cannot too gladly recognise a fresh contribution from one of the few living composers for the instrument whose productions have more than fugitive interest. Much as Stephen Heller has written, there is no sign of exhaustion in the pieces just issued by the eminent firm above specified. In his new series of "Waldscenen" ("Dans le Bois"), M. Heller has contributed seven movements worthy of association with those charming pieces to which they are a supplement. Like their predecessors, each number has a characteristic title, affording a clue to the thought which suggested it, and illustrating the sights and sounds of forest life which a hunter may be supposed to experience between his starting for the chase and his homeward return. The variety of character to be found in these pieces is among their many attractions—the simplest and least pretentious (No. 4, "Fleur Solitaire") being one of the most charming. Their practice will not only gratify refined taste, but will also improve the player, both in mechanical execution and rhythmical expression. From the opus number of this new work, 128, it will be seen how largely, as well as how worthily, Stephen Heller has contributed to the stores of piano-forte music. From the same publishers we have "Six Sacred Part-Songs," by Arthur S. Sullivan; and "Six Part-Songs," by Frederic H. Cowen. Each series will sustain the well-earned reputation of its composer. "Julius Andre's Second Organ-Book" is a valuable addition to the library of professional and amateur organists. The work contains thirty-three entirely new compositions by one of the most skilful of living performers on the instrument, who is also a musician of high cultivation and attainments. The pieces are calculated for use in church service, and are suited to all occasions, whether jubilant or solemn.

Messrs. Chappell and Co. have just issued a series of "Music Copy-Books," compiled by Mr. Walter Maynard, upon a system designed by himself. The series consists of six numbers, in the first two of which the rudiments of musical education are explained—the staves, ledger-lines, values of notes, time, formation of the scales, &c. The third book is devoted to instructions for the pianoforte; the fourth and fifth to the rudiments of harmony; and the sixth to vocalisation, part-singing, and singing at sight. The chief principle of the system is the practical exercise of the student's memory. On one page is a printed exposition, with blank staves for the pupil to copy what is before him, which is to be written entirely from recollection, on the following page. The author truly says, in his prefatory remarks:—"The plan I have set forth seems to necessitate concentration of thought upon the subject of study; it affords assistance to the memory, and tends to cultivate habits of precision, observation, and comparison." When it is added that each number is published at the price of sixpence, it will be seen that the facilities thus offered for musical instruction are great indeed. M. Gounod's charming songs, "The Fountain mingles with the River" and "Good-Night"—the poetry in both cases from Shelley—are among the recent vocal publications of Messrs. Chappell, and will be largely sought for by the many who have heard their effective performance by our eminent public vocalists.

The "Organist's Quarterly Journal," issued by Messrs. Novello and Co., and edited by Dr. Spark, of Leeds, maintains its interest and variety, as well as its special object in the production exclusively of original compositions written for the work. The last number (the twelfth issue) contains pieces by Messrs. T. M. Mudie, H. Smart, F. W. Hird, W. H. Barnett, W. H. Sangster, and A. S. Cooper; the foreign contributions being by MM. Merkel and Graedener.

Organists will be glad to possess the "Andante Grazioso" (recently published by Messrs. Metzler and Co.), composed by Mr. E. J. Hopkins for performance at the opening of the great organ of the Royal Albert Hall, on which occasion it was played with great effect by Mr. W. T. Best. Mr. Hopkins, the eminent organist of the Temple Church, has here produced a charming movement, in which a graceful theme is surrounded with a variety of elaborations and much fanciful treatment. "The Temple Tune-Book," also published by Messrs. Metzler, and arranged and edited by Mr. Hopkins, is an inexpensive collection of psalm and hymn tunes by past and present composers. The work is to be completed in three divisions: the first to consist of old English tunes down to the middle of the last century, the second of foreign melodies, and the last of modern English tunes. The commencing number is illustrated by some valuable historical remarks and notes by the editor.

Messrs. Duff and Stewart have brought out a pianoforte arrangement of Sir Julius Benedict's grand march "Charles and Olga," originally composed for the "silver wedding" of the King and Queen of Wurtemberg, and recently played with great success at M. Rivière's Promenade Concerts. It is not stated by whom the arrangement has been made, but it is probably by the composer, as the orchestral features and effects are skilfully represented in the adaptation. The same publishers have also contributed to the repertoire of drawing-room ballads by several songs of this class, among which may be mentioned "When I remember," by Mrs. Alfred Phillips; "The Unwise Choice," by Miss K. L. Ward; "Tell her not when I am gone," by Miss Mary Helen Boyle; and "Never a care have I," by Mr. T. G. B. Halley.

The American pianist, Mr. J. M. Wehli, who was recently heard at London concerts, has contributed, through Messrs. Cramer, Wood, and Co., a small pianoforte piece, "Eine Kleine Geschichte" ("Une Histoire Curieuse"), in the notturno style, a simple theme, being amplified by brilliant passages à la Thalberg. In a somewhat similar school are the "Impromptu" and "Romance sans Paroles" of Signor G. Ferraris, whose "Melodie Religieuse," starting with a more serious basis, is also treated in like fashion. M. de Lajarte's "Six Marches performed by the band of the Garde Républicaine" have much of the spirit of military impulse embodied in different forms of martial tempo. Their publication as pianoforte duets will probably render them more widely known than heretofore. Longfellow's lines, "The Curfew," have been pleasantly set by Mr. Charles Smith, the simplicity of the melody and the accompaniment being more effective than might have been an attempt at elaboration and originality.

"The Ermo Romance," for the pianoforte, by Charles Fowler, issued by Messrs. Weekes and Co., is by a gentleman who has produced several works in the sonata form with the novel combination of the voice. The piece now referred to deals effectively with arpeggios, broken chords, syncopation, and interweaving and crossing of hands, and will be found useful practice in those forms of mechanism. There is considerable grace of character in "The Wreathed Garland" (bolero) and "Spring Flowers" (sketch), pianoforte pieces, by Mr. J. Parry Cole; and similar praise may be awarded to Mr. Oliver Cramer's "Star Rays," a reverie, for the pianoforte.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

FIELD MARSHAL BENEDEK.

Louis von Benedek, the celebrated Austrian General, Lieutenant Field Marshal and Privy Councillor, whose death is just announced, was born at Odenburg, in Hungary in 1804, and at an early age was sent to the Military Academy of Neustadt. In 1822 he obtained his first commission, and commenced a career of military exploits, the brilliancy of which was finally obscured by the fatal defeat of Sadowa. In 1843 he attained the rank of Colonel; in 1845 succeeded in quelling the insurrection which had broken out in Galicia; and in 1848 he served in Radetzky's memorable campaign, receiving the decoration of Maria Theresa for his great gallantry and skill, especially at the battle of Cortolona. In 1849 his charge on the enemy decided the day at Mortara; and at the crowning victory of Novara it was the last fierce attack, led in person by Benedek, that won the battle. Subsequently, as Major-General, he was given the command of the fourth division, the vanguard of the Austrian forces in Hungary, and did good service at Comorn. Wounded at Raab and Szegeden, he was disabled for the rest of the campaign. Ten years later Benedek commanded in Italy the first division of the Lombardo-Venetian army, was wounded at Montebello, fought with great heroism at Magenta, and was the last to leave the field of Solferino. The high reputation acquired by this long course of military achievement pointed him out above all others for the command of the Austrian army in the desperate conflict with Prussia in 1866. In the campaign that ensued his good fortune deserted him, and he was utterly defeated at Sadowa. Placed on the retired list, Marshal Benedek passed his remaining years unoccupied in military affairs.

THE RIGHT HON. E. LUCAS.

The Right Hon. Edward Lucas, of Castle Shane, in the county of Monaghan, P.C., died on the 12th inst. He was born Sept. 27, 1787, the only son of Charles Lucas, Esq., of Castle Shane, barrister-at-law, by his first wife, Sarah, eldest daughter of Sir James Hamilton, of Monaghan. Having received his education at Harrow, and at Christ Church, Oxford (besides attending lectures at the University of Edinburgh), Mr. Lucas entered Parliament for the county of Monaghan in 1834, and retained his seat till 1841, when he was appointed Under-Secretary for Ireland, which office he held till 1845. He subsequently acted, with the late Sir John Burgoyne and others, as a member of the famine commission, and in 1846 was sworn of the Privy Council for Ireland. A magistrate for the county of Monaghan, Mr. Lucas served as its High Sheriff in 1817. He married, in 1812, Anne, second daughter of William Ruxton, Esq., of Ardee House, in the county of Louth, M.P. for Ardee, and leaves issue three sons and three daughters, of whom the eldest son and successor is Edward William Lucas, Esq., late 88th Regiment, J.P. and D.L. for Monaghan; and the eldest daughter, Catherine Anne, wife of Samuel Fitzherbert Filgate, Esq., of Hillsborough, in the county of Down. The Lucas family is one of consideration in the north of Ireland. It migrated from England early in the seventeenth century, and had the lands which it acquired erected into the manor of Castle Shane by patent of King Charles II.

THE HON. F. S. JOCELYN.

The Hon. Frederick Spencer Jocelyn, for several years Page of Honour to the Queen, died at Cannes, on the 12th inst., only a month after his sister, Viscountess Sudley. He was born July 11, 1852, the second son of Robert, Viscount Jocelyn, by Lady Frances Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of the fifth Earl Cowper, and was grandson of the late and brother of the present Earl of Roden.

SIR JOSHUA WALMSLEY.

Sir Joshua Walmsley, Knight, J.P., died, on the 17th inst., at Hume Towers, Bournemouth. He was born at Liverpool, in 1794, the son of Mr. John Walmsley, by Elizabeth Perry, his wife. He married, in 1815, daughter of Hugh Mulleneux, Esq., of Liverpool, and leaves issue. Sir Joshua, who was formerly a corn merchant in Liverpool, was elected Mayor of that town in 1840, and during that year received the honour of knighthood, on the occasion of the Queen's marriage. In 1847 he was returned to Parliament by the borough of Leicester, but was unseated on petition in 1848. From 1849 to 1852 he represented Bolton in Parliament, and from 1852 to 1857 his former constituency of Leicester.

GENERAL BOUVERIE.

Edward William Bouverie, of Delapré Abbey, Northamptonshire, J.P., a General in the Army and Colonel of the 15th Hussars, died at his seat near Northampton, on the 18th inst. He was born Oct. 13, 1789, the eldest son of Edward Bouverie, Esq., of Delapré Abbey, by Catherine, his wife, daughter and heiress of William Castle, Esq., and was grandson of the Hon. Edward Bouverie, by Harriet, his wife, only daughter of Sir Everard Fawkenor, Knt., Ambassador at the Porte. Educated at Harrow, and at St. John's College, Cambridge, General Bouverie entered the Army in 1812, and was wounded at Waterloo. In 1840 he was appointed Equerry to the late Prince Consort, and in 1853 to the Queen. He married, April 3, 1816, Charlotte, daughter of the late Colonel Hugh O'Donel, of Newport Pratt, in the county of Mayo. The estate of Delapré Abbey, one of historical interest and great picturesque beauty, came to the Bouveries through the marriage of the General's great-grandfather, Jacob, first Viscount Polkestone, with Mary, daughter of Bartholomew Clarke, Esq., of Delapré Abbey; and it now devolves, as General Bouverie has died without issue, on his nephew, James Augustus Shiel Bouverie, whose early vicissitudes and the proceedings taken before Sir Cresswell Cresswell for the purpose of establishing his right of inheritance are the subject of a chapter in the third series of Sir Bernard Burke's "Vicissitudes of Families."

MR. GRISEWOOD, OF DAYLESFORD.

Harman Grisewood, Esq., of Daylesford House, in the county of Worcester, died on the 17th inst., at 10, Hill-street, Berkeley-square. He was born in 1821, the fifth son of the late George Grisewood, Esq., of Finchley, Middlesex, by Eleanor, his wife, daughter of Randall Brown, Esq. He married, 1843, Elizabeth Blackmore, second daughter of Richard Winch, Esq., of Cranbrook, Kent, and leaves an only son and heir, Harman, late of Christ Church, Oxford. Mr. Grisewood, who was a magistrate for the county of Worcester, and a Deputy Lieutenant for the counties of Worcester, Oxford, and Gloucester, served as High Sheriff for Worcestershire in 1864.

The health of Mr. Childers is now completely re-established.

Sir Joshua Walmsley, who formerly represented Bolton and Leicester in the Liberal interest, died recently at Torquay, at the age of seventy-seven.

At the distribution of prizes at East Devon County School, yesterday week, Earl Fortescue referred in terms of disapproval to the efforts of the Birmingham Education League to reopen educational controversy. A compromise had been made; and it was a great misfortune to be eternally altering machinery, instead of assisting it to do good work.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

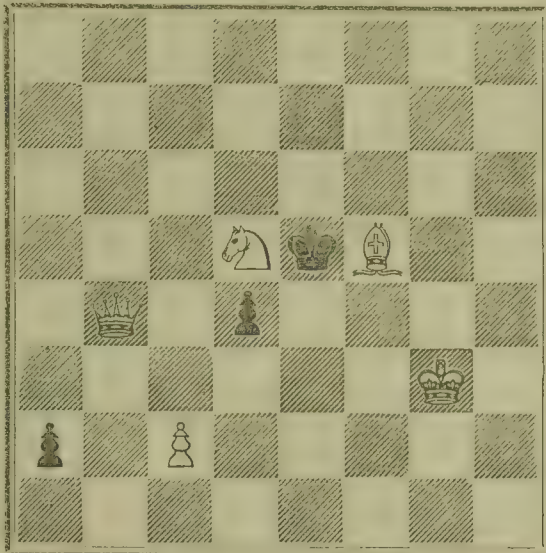
NORAH.—Look again at 146 and you will find that the Black King can escape by capturing White's Q Pawn.
A. W. B.—Get the "American Chess Nuts" from Messrs. Tritner, of Paternoster-row.
STUDENT, Temple.—Your best course by far is to join the St. George's Chess Club. For particulars apply to Mr. Thomas Hampton, 20, King-street, St. James's.
FABRICE.—Neat; but the mate is more obvious than our estimable contributor perhaps supposed. In the solution, "1. D; 2. F D," should be, 1. D; 2. F R, we presume.
V. O. O'DONOGH.—To resume: No. 3 admits of an easy mate in two moves, by 1. R to Q B 7th (ch); 2. Q mates. No 5 has a second solution, by 1. Kt to K B 6th (ch); and No. 6 has the same, by 1. B takes P (ch); 2. Q to Q B 4th, &c.
A. D., Naples.—The examinee's report on No. 23 declares it has a second solution, and a very palatable one, beginning, 1. B to Kt 4th; 2. Kt to Q 2nd, or vice versa.
J. A. W. H.—In future diagrams you will save trouble and avert mistakes by adopting the mode of describing the chess men which we have so frequently recommended.
J. H. W., York.—Correct; but much too easy.
W. C. D., Carrick-on-Suir.—No; the move suggested would have been of no service. White, in reply to 21. Q R to Q sq, could have played 25. B takes K B P, or 25. Q to Q B 4th; and, having already a piece more than their adversaries, must have won easily.
T. C. W.—In such cases correspondents should always send the name of the composer. Are the problems in question taken from a foreign or an English periodical?
W. S., Hartford.—We are gratified to hear so good an account of the progress chess is making at Hartford, and shall welcome some examples of the skill attained by the players named. The copy of the Hartford Times arrived safely, as did your solution of our last Knight's Tour.
THE TRUE SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 146 has been received from Nabob—S. P. Q. B., of Brussels—H. S. W. R. E.—George—M. P.—Presia—Nimrod—Box and Cox—Peregrine—T. M. B.—Jessica—L. S. D.—Ferrybridge—B. A.—Locura—E. B. S.—F. M.—R. A.—Pip—Fanny—A Clerk—S. S.—W. Peters—Magnus—Tota—W. F. W.—John I. Simpson—Sam Weiler—Mac—J. T. T. York—H. D., of Wellington—Percy—Oliver—Simcox—H. V. K.—H. Gearing, Guernsey—Cipher—Moggy—Gresham—Dr Pangloss—Topsey—F. R. S.—Simplex—Horace Scavill—L. W., Canterbury—Boxhill—Senecus—T. V. Y.—Bessie—M. A., Cambridge—Winkle—A. P. G. Kup—H. Finden—Karl—E. E. Draper—G. T. B.—Fantail—Nora—Jen and Joe—C. H. W.—F. R. A.—Helen and Hernia—J. P., of Rutlandshire—Max—Banahoe—Sam Slick—W. H. Macfie—H. Rawdon—Stauley—Mitre—T. m. and Will—Aunt Sarah—Anne—H. I. B. F.—C. E. Chatham—Ant. Demonechy—Captain M., of Dublin—Honeywood—De Heriz—Trial—T. K. B.—E. D. L.—Emma Fahana—Jemima—Keith and Kate—J. Sowden—Emile Frau—W. M. Christie.
*** The answers to numerous correspondents are deferred from want of room for them.

WHITE.		BLACK.	
1. P to Q Kt 6th	P takes P	2. Q to Q B 2nd	Any move
		3. B to Q 6th.	Mate.

PROBLEM NO. 144.

By Mr. J. A. W. HUNTER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN LONDON.

The following Game was recently played between Messrs. POTTER and FRANKENSTEIN at the City of London Chess Club.—(Irregular Opening.)
BLACK (Mr. P.) WHITE (Mr. F.)
1. P to Q B 4th P to Q B 4th
2. P to K 3rd P to K 3rd

Some authorities prefer continuing the game thus:—

1. P to K 4th P to K 4th
2. P to Q 3rd P to Q 3rd
3. P to K B 4th Kt to K B 3rd
4. P to K B 3rd Kt to Q B 3rd, &c.
5. Kt to K B 3rd P to K 3rd
6. P to Q R 3rd Kt to Q B 3rd
7. Kt to K B 3rd P to K R 3rd
8. P to Q 4th P to Q 4th
9. P to Q Kt 3rd P to Q Kt 3rd
10. B to Q 3rd B to Q 3rd
11. Castles Kt to K B 3rd
12. R to K R 3rd Kt to K R 4th
13. P takes Q P P takes Kt
14. P to K 4th Kt takes Q P
15. P tks P (dis ch) K to B sq
16. B to Q Kt 2nd Q to K B 3rd
17. Q Kt to Q 2nd

If Black had now taken the Kt with Pawn, the continuation would probably have been:—

15. P takes Kt P takes P
16. B takes Kt P takes B
17. K Kt to Q 2nd Q to K R 4th
18. K to B sq R to K 8th (ch)
19. K takes B R to K sq (ch)
20. K to K 2nd R takes K, &c.
21. K to Q 3rd Kt to K 4th
22. B takes Kt P takes B
23. Kt to K 4th Ktks K Kt (ch)
24. Q takes Kt Q takes Q
25. Kt takes B

Taking the Kt would have subjected him to a very dangerous attack.

Another Game between Messrs. POTTER and FRANKENSTEIN.

(K Kt's Opening.)

- | WHITE (Mr. F.) | BLACK (Mr. P.) |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. P to K 4th | P to K 4th |
| 2. Kt to K B 3rd | Kt to Q B 3rd |
| 3. B to Q B 4th | B to K 2nd |

This defence was adopted both in the correspondence match between Paris and London and that between Paris and Pesh.

It may be played without danger; but it is liable to give the player a cramped position, if his opponent avails himself of all the opportunities it affords him.

4. P to Q R 3rd

The move pronounced best by the books is—

4. P to Q 4th, The probable continuation then being—
5. P to Q B 3rd Kt to K B 3rd
6. Q to Q B 2nd Castles
7. B to K 2nd B to K Kt 5th
8. B to K 3rd, with a well-disposed game.
9. P to K B 4th
10. P to K R 3rd P to Q 3rd
11. Kt to Q B 3rd Q Kt to K 2nd
12. Kt to K R 2nd P to Q B 3rd
13. Castles P to Q 4th
14. B to Q R 2nd P to K Kt 4th
15. K to R sq B to K 3rd

This move was not a good one, and it caused Black much trouble as the conflict thickened.

12. B to Q 2nd P to K R 4th

13. P to Q Kt 4th Q to Q B 2nd

14. Q to K sq Kt to K R 3rd

Black was so intent upon his own mischievous device that he evidently overlooked the "mitching mallico" initiated by his foe's last move.

15. P takes Q P P takes P

19. B to Q R 3rd

20. P takes Q B takes B

21. Q R to Q sq B to Q B 7th

22. R takes P B takes P

23. R to Q Kt sq R to K R 3rd

24. Kt to Q Kt 5th B to Q B 7th

25. R to Q B sq R to K B 4th

26. K to R 2nd B to Q 2nd

27. Kt to Q B 7th R to Q sq

28. R to K sq R to Q 3rd

29. R to K B 4th R to Q B sq

30. Kt to K 6th (ch) K to Kt sq

This portion of the battle is uncommonly well fought by Mr. Potter.

31. Kt to K Kt 5th P to K B 3rd

32. Kt to K 4th R takes Q P

33. R takes K B P R to Q 6th

34. R to K Kt sq B to K sq

35. Kt to Q 6th R to Q sq

36. Kt to K B 6th

Threatening his adversary with speedy extinction.

37. R to K 6th Q R to Q 2nd

38. A very good move; making sure of a drawn battle, at least

39. R takes B (ch) K to B 2nd

40. R to K 7th (ch)

He had no better move, apparently.

41. R takes R R takes R

42. R takes P K to B 3rd

43. R takes R

The game was abandoned as a drawn fight.

16. P to K Kt 6th

It was thought afterwards that 16. Kt P takes P would have been better for Black than the move in the text.

17. P takes K P B takes P

18. P to Q 4th B takes Kt

19. Q takes B P takes P

Mr. Potter, in this game, treats his opponent a little too lightly, perhaps. Against an adversary of his own force he would in the present case have submitted to the loss of a Pawn, and then have fought desperately to recover himself. He must now lose a piece.

20. Kt takes Q P P takes P (ch)

21. K takes P Q to Q 3rd

22. Q takes Kt (ch) Q takes Q

23. Kt takes Q K takes Kt

24. K takes B

A very tangible gain.

25. Q R to K sq K to B 3rd

26. B to Q B 4th Kt to Kt 5th (ch)

27. K to R 3rd R takes R

28. B takes R Kt to K 6th

Specious, but incorrect.

29. B to K R 4th (ch) K to Kt 3rd

30. R to Kt sq (ch) Kt to Kt 5th

31. R to K sq P to K B 5th

32. B to Q 3rd (ch) K to Kt 2nd

33. R to K 7th (ch) K to B sq

34. R to K R 7th Resigns.

ANTELOPE-HUNTING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

There are many species of antelopes in the Orange River and Trans-Vaal territories, beyond the north-east borders of the Cape Colony. The hartebeest, or caama, which is most commonly found and hunted by the natives, and by Dutch or English colonists; the steenbok, a light and graceful creature, which frequents the stony and mountainous valleys; the magnificent koodoo of Kaffraria, with its spirally twisted horns; the beautiful springbok, which leaps perpendicularly upwards to a height of 7 ft. or 8 ft. above the ground; the large blesbok or bontebok, and the blaubok, or sable antelope, are some of the most conspicuous varieties of this animal. The blaubok is so called from its apparent colour, but its hide or skin is perfectly black and its hair is ashy grey; the effect is a bluish tinge, whence its name is derived. Its body is 6 ft. in length, and it stands 3 ft. 7 in. high at the shoulder. The horns, round and curving backwards, with twenty or thirty rings, and very sharp points, are 2 ft. 2 in. long; the ears are 8 in. long, and the tail, with a tuft at the end, is 12 in. long. The blaubok lives in families of five or six females with one male, on the open plains north of the Gareep or Orange River. It is fierce and dangerous when attacked, but the hunters pursue it on horseback, and kill it with the rifle when brought to bay. The sketch we have engraved was drawn by Mr. Thomas Baines, the South African traveller and explorer.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of Count Pelet de la Lozere, Joseph Claramont Privat, has just been proved in the London Court, the testator having died possessed of personalty in England estimated for probate duty as not exceeding £35,000.

The will of Field Marshal Sir John Fox Burgoyne, Bart., G.C.B., K.C.S.I., F.R.S., D.C.L., Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour, First Class of the Medjidie, and Constable of the Tower of London, formerly residing at Gloucester-gardens, and late of Pembroke-square, was proved in her Majesty's Court of Probate, on the 13th inst., and the personalty in England sworn under £4000. The will is very brief, and bears date May 25, 1868. Sir John has appointed as sole executrix Lady Burgoyne, his relict, the daughter and coheir of Colonel H. Rose, by whom he had a large family. There are five daughters surviving, but his only son died in September, 1870, and there is no male issue to succeed to the baronetcy. The will bears date May 25, 1868, by which he has bequeathed to his wife the whole of his property of every description, for her own absolute use, except his manuscripts and papers, which he leaves in charge of his only unmarried daughter, Selina Henrietta Burgoyne. The gallant Field Marshal died on the 7th ult., aged eighty-nine, and was buried in the precincts of the Tower of London, honoured by a large attendance of military officers.

The will of Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Bart., K.C.B., F.R.S., M.A., late of Belgrave-square, formerly proprietor of the estate of Taradale, Ross-shire, N.B., was proved in the London Court on the 14th inst., and the personalty in England sworn under £250,000. Sir Roderick was formerly a cavalry officer in her Majesty's service, from which he retired in 1815, and turned his attention to scientific pursuits; became Director-General of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, and of the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn-street; a trustee of the British Museum, and late President of the Geological and Geographical Societies of London. Sir Roderick died on the 22nd ult., aged seventy-nine, having executed his will March 10, 1869, with two codicils dated in April and July last. The executors and trustees appointed are his two nephews, Kennett R. Murchison and Roderick Maingy Murchison, Esquires, together with Trenham Reeks, Esq., and John Murray, Esq., of Albemarle-street. To each of his executors he leaves a legacy of £1000 in addition to any other bequests made to them. He directs his executors to hand over to Archibald Geikie, the director of the Geological Survey of Scotland, all manuscripts that may assist him in the preparation of a memoir of his (the testator's) life; to which end he bequeaths to the said Archibald Geikie, Thomas Rupert Jones, professor at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and Henry William Bates, assistant curator of the Museum of Practical Geology, Liverpool, each a legacy of £350 for their trouble. He bequeaths to the Geological Society, London, £1000, to be called "Murchison's Geological Fund;" and to the Royal Geographical Society, London, £1000, to be called "Murchison's Geographical Fund;" the interest arising from these sums to be applied as the councils may direct, each council to give a bronze cast of the Murchison medal every year. He bequeaths to the Royal School of Mines £500, a cast of the said medal to be annually given at the geological examinations. He bequeaths £600 to found a chair of geology in the University of Edinburgh, to bear his name. He bequeaths £200 for the poor of Urray, Ross-shire. There are numerous legacies to friends and liberal bequests to servants. To his physician, Dr. H. B. Jones, he leaves £1000; to his two nurses who attended him through his illness, £25 each free. He bequeaths the interest of £12,000 to his nephew Roderick Maingy Murchison, and afterwards to his wife, and the principal sum to their children. He bequeaths to his eldest nephew, Kenneth Murchison, the family diamonds, and leaves him his residence and furniture, and appoints him residuary legatee; the surname and arms of "Murchison" to be always used by the possessor of his estates. The vase, sideboard, plaque, gold snuffbox set with diamonds, having the enamelled portrait of the second Emperor of all the Russias, and other highly-esteemed presents, he directs his executors to get placed in the Jermyn-street Museum or the South Kensington Museum.

The will of the late John Harris, Esq., of 3, Prince's-gate, Hyde Park, was proved, on the 20th ult., by the executors, Dr. John T. Griffith, Edward Pitt Youell, and Francis Palmer Esqrs. The personalty was sworn under £18,000. The testator, after leaving annuities to nephews and nieces and old family servants, directs a selection of heirlooms to be made, and entails the whole of his real and personal estate, in trust, for the benefit of Edward Hugh Griffith, the eldest son of his niece Rosa Anne Griffith, or such other of her sons as may first attain the age of twenty-five, the property meanwhile to accumulate and be invested in land.

The will of Wilson Crewden, Esq., of Southside, Whalley Range, was proved at Manchester, under £160,000; that of Henry Bullpit, Esq., at London, under £80,000; and that of John Phillips, Esq., of Royston, Herts, under £70,000 personalty.

Sir William Henry Stephenson, Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, has been nominated to be a Knight Commander of the Bath, civil division.

The Consul-General of the United States has been directed by his Government to communicate to the Consuls in the United Kingdom the satisfaction with which a report of the result of their efforts on behalf of the sufferers in the Chicago fire has been received.



HUNTING THE SABLE ANTELOPE IN SOUTH AFRICA.



"LA SOUPE," BY EDWARD CASLON.

OLD TANNERIES AT GENEVA.

The city of Geneva, which was visited not many days ago by a conflagration destroying several of the best hotels and other modern buildings on the quay, owes more of its attraction for travellers to the scenery of the Lake and of the Rhone, in its immediate neighbourhood, than to any fine architectural structures. The shores of the Lake, not flat, but gently rising from the water's edge, are studded with elegant villas in gardens, which have quite an English aspect. They are overlooked by Mont Salève, a grand range of limestone precipices, having some resemblance in form to the Salisbury Crags of Edinburgh, but four or five miles distant from the town. Far-off views of the Jura, and even of Mont Blanc, and other Alps of Savoy, may be got in clear weather from some convenient places. The promenades on the ramparts, and on the right bank of the river, in the Quartier des Bergues, united with the other parts of the city by two handsome bridges, communicating with the small island where Julius Cæsar built a Roman fort, are very pleasant. But the most beautiful sight in Geneva is the wondrously blue water of the Rhone as it issues from the Lake, in whose depths it has left every particle of earthly soil. A pure white swan floating on those billows of transparent azure, under a clear sunny sky, is a thing never to be forgotten by whoever has once beheld it. The Rhone does not, of course, after passing through the town, retain this exquisite purity, but its blue colour is preserved till it joins the Arve, a mile and a half below. Like most other Alpine rivers not filtered through lakes, the Arve, rushing down from the glaciers of Mont Blanc, a course of sixty miles is full of mud and gravel. It is so dirty, and behaves so rudely in its furious advance, that the noble Rhone will not mix with it at their first meeting. The blue stream of one river runs side by side with the turbid tawny current of the other, in the same channel, as the Missouri and Mississippi do at their point of junction. At length the Arve gains the apparent mastery, and the Rhone is thenceforth discoloured in its lower course through France to the Mediterranean Sea. There are some picturesque old-fashioned buildings still left on the banks of the river at Geneva. The tanneries, a sketch of which appears in our Engraving, are such a relic of antiquity; but the improvements of late have caused many features of the historic Geneva, associated with Calvin and Knox, with Voltaire and Rousseau, and with other illustrious scholars, exiled patriots, and philosophers, to vanish from the eyes of inquiring tourists. There is comparatively little here to remind us of the past.

"LA SOUPE."

"Put a gallon of water in the black pot, put four pounds of the buttock of beef, or shin, or five pounds of the thick part of the leg (in France they always put in half a pound of ox-liver to every four pounds of meat); three tea-spoonfuls of salt, one of pepper, four onions, four leeks cut in pieces, two carrots, and two good-sized turnips, three cloves, one burnt onion, or three spoonfuls of colouring; set it on the fire; when beginning to scum, skim it, and place the pot on one side of the fire. Add now and then a drop of cold water; it will make it clear. Boil four hours. Bread sliced put into the tureen, and pour the broth, with some of the vegetables, over; serve the meat separate, and the remaining vegetables round." Such is the recipe which Soyer gives for the "truly national soup" of his native country; or rather, as he cannot expect that that matchless soup can be made here to perfection, he gives this as a recipe for the soup in a simplified form—as what he shall call the French "Cottage Pot-au-feu." Happy the cottages with abundance of such soup; it surely must be preferable to Irish stew, and even nearly equal to the Irishman's famous flint soup, as described in "The Collegians," allowing for Paddy's ingenuity in flavouring and seasoning the stones. To give such a recipe is clearly the most appropriate, and certainly the most useful, comment we could offer on the picture, by M. Edouard Caslan, which we have engraved. Let our readers who are not yet spoiled by the refinements of a Ude or Francatelli try the recipe themselves, and if the result is anything like so good as the national soupe, which is to be had even in French cottages, then we shall have deserved our readers' eternal gratitude. To have succeeded in naturalising here the French pot-au-feu would be to deserve better of our country than if we had built a hospital or qualified any number of doctors.

But, alas! the pot-au-feu of the French cottages is not always so "thick and slab" with rich ingredients as a patriotic and poetical Soyer would have us believe. It is very apt to degenerate and become diluted into a thin meagre kind of bouillie. Nor is it served with the circumstance and ceremony that the imaginative chef-de-cuisine pretends to intimate. In the cottage interior before us the "tureen," for instance, is evidently dispensed with. The soup is being ladelled direct from the black pot into the family plates and basins; and, by that pretty custom which obtains in humble families, the little ones are to be helped first, instead of being permitted to come down from the nursery only at the end of the repast. Jeannette, the mère, you see, is commencing with the very youngest, always the most impatient; the boy knows he must wait his turn, but, with his spoon in readiness, he will quickly make up for lost time. Jean, the père, is still more patient: placidly he sits in a dream of pleasant anticipation! A model husband that! How many would have been pacing the room like wolves or tigers during the last five minutes! As for Jeannette herself, no one knows when the mère-de-famille finds time to eat.

It is the usage, in humble French country life, to prepare the pot-au-feu in the morning, and leave it to simmer for hours on the long-smouldering wood embers, while the peasant proprietors, both male and female, are engaged at field labour. On their return the soup is ready, and rarely they would have to add fresh fuel; rarely would they, we believe, start a blaze, as here, to finish the soup for fear of spoiling it. So we set down the blazing, crackling fire as a little pictorial license taken by the painter merely to help the artistic effect of his clever picture. We should add that our Engraving is from a photograph of the picture published by Messrs. Goupil.

The Bishop of Exeter will distribute the prizes awarded by the Department of Science and Art to the successful candidates in the late Government examinations at the Bath Saloon, Torquay, this (Saturday) evening.

The monument to Flora MacDonald, erected by public subscription, has now been placed over the grave of the heroine in the churchyard at Kilmuir, in the Isle of Skye. A monolith Iona cross, 18 ft. 6 in. in height, reared upon a basement 10 ft. high, marks her resting place. As compared with other monumental crosses in Scotland, this is, according to the *Inverness Courier*, the largest of which any record can be found. The monument to Flora MacDonald occupies a commanding position on a height about 300 ft. immediately above the sea at the extreme north-west of Skye, and will be a conspicuous object to every vessel passing up the Minch within sight of land.

NEW BOOKS.

It is almost awful for some of us to reflect that we were once children; and we must all experience a strange mixture of feelings when we gaze on laughing portraits of little darlings who have, under the tuition of severe Old Time, become our miserable selves. The spectacle, of course, has different effects upon different people, and evokes all kinds of facial expression, from the quivering lip and tearful eye to the incredulous smile and sardonic grin. And yet there is some pleasure—melancholy, no doubt, but pleasure still—in sitting quietly with a friend, indulging in a little egotistical retrospection, comparing past with present, tracing actual "now" in the painter's representation of "then," and wondering whether ourselves or others could ever have "looked like that." On such occasions the situation is improved if our companion be a person of reflection, of considerable reading, of good memory, and of communicative disposition; for our conversation becomes seasoned with interesting remarks, poetical quotations, and illustrative anecdotes, as we wander from consideration of him or her who was "once a child" to agreeable gossip about him or her who was "never a child" or who was "always a child." Nor is the charm of the hour, which, in such cases, is no time for noisy hilarity, so likely to be destroyed as enhanced if our conversation be carried on without the sound of voices. And it will not be necessary, for that purpose, to employ the language of the deaf-mutes; it will be enough to take up *Cues from all Quarters; or, Literary Musings of a Clerical Recluse* (Hodder and Stoughton). The author chooses to be anonymous; but he has written a volume which, "in a quiet sort of way," offers excellent entertainment. He has nothing startling to say, and no very original views to put forward; but he gives as well as takes "cues." He has been led, if he be properly understood, to adopt the title he has chosen for his book, by the fact that the subjects upon which he discourses were suggested to him from time to time by some phrase or some sentiment with which he was struck during his evidently extensive reading; and his pages are rendered particularly attractive by the liberal manner in which he has studied them with passages taken from the best authors. The volume contains nineteen essays or discourses, or whatever they may be more correctly styled, of which the first three are respectively headed, "Once a Child," "Never a Child," and "Always a Child;" and they, as well as the other sixteen, are suggestive of wholesome thought, indicative of sound taste and judgment, and provocative of, for the most part, desirable sensations.

The spectacle of the biter bit is nearly always amusing; to outcheat a cheat partakes of the nature of repartee; slang is very often laughable, and in the estimation of "barbarians" there is always something droll about a Chinaman. Americans, moreover, can say things in a dry way which tickles one pleasantly. Though, then, there may be nothing particularly humorous in a meagre story which tells how a demure Chinaman proved himself to be more than a match at cardsharpping for two "barbarians," there is to be found in *That Heathen Chinee; and other Poems, mostly Humorous*, by F. Bret Harte (John Camden Hotten), a degree of drollery some pegs beyond the mark of the ordinary comic song, but very far below that of such humourists as Barham, Hood, and many another. Considerable mastery of versification is displayed; and skill in that respect, when there is also quaintness of expression, will very often conceal poverty of humorous ideas. Of the "other poems," there is none which comes up, so far as humour is concerned, even to the "Heathen Chinee;" but of those which do not pretend to be funny there are one or two which are more than pretty. It should be added, however, that "The Aged Stranger" is not a bad specimen of American humour; and that "The Willows," a parody, is not only verse of good mechanism, but has its ludicrous points, calculated to amuse the pothouse rather than the drawing-room.

Maternity is, no doubt, a serious matter; but, though it is not entirely ignored by those, especially ladies, who write novels, it can hardly be said to appertain to literature. Still a book is a book, and therefore the notice of all whom it may concern is hereby drawn to *Introductory Notes on Lying-in Institutions*, by Florence Nightingale (Longmans). The volume is, for the most part, a collection of statistics relating to midwifery and of suggestions based upon a very deplorable experience. The author's name will, of course, be sufficient to bespeak proper attention for the book, which, so far as it has a story to tell, tells a very pitiful one.

The following new books have been sent us for notice by the publishers:—"The Highlands of Central India," by the late Captain J. Forsyth; "The History of England, from 1830," by the Rev. W. Nassau Molesworth, vol. 1 (Chapman and Hall); "Insects at Home—a Popular Account of British Insects," by the Rev. J. G. Wood (Longmans); "The Cities of the Nations Fell," by the Rev. Dr. Cumming (Hurst and Blackett); "The Lay of the Last Minstrel," with Photographic Illustrations by Russell-Sedgfield (Provost and Co.); "Mr. Pisistratus Brown, M.P., in the Highlands," reprinted from the *Daily News*, with Additions (Macmillan); "Helen Cameron, from Grub to Butterly," by the Author of "Mary Stanley, or the Secret Ones," 3 vols. (Chapman and Hall); "Kimberwell House, a Novel," by Robert Hudson, 3 vols. (Chapman and Hall); "The Haunted Crust, and other Stories," by Katherine Saunders, 2 vols. (Strahan and Co.); "Patty," by Katherine S. Macquoid, 2 vols. (Macmillan); "Hollowhill Farm," by John Edwardson, 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers); "Tregarthen Hall," by James Garland, 3 vols. (Tinsley); "Stolen Waters," 2 vols., by Mrs. Mackenzie Daniel (T. C. Newby); "The Old Maid's Secret," by E. Marlitt, translated from the German (Strahan); "London in Light and Darkness, with Other Poems," by Nicholas Michell (W. Tegg); "Poems by Robert Cadzow Harvey" (W. P. Nimmo); "The Drama of Kings," including "Napoleon Fallen," by Robert Buchanan (Strahan); "How it All Happened, and Other Stories," 2 vols., by Louisa Parr, author of "Dorothy Fox" (Strahan); "Known to None," a village romance (Smith, Elder, and Co.); "On the Banks of the Amazon," a tale for boys, by W. H. G. Kingston (T. Nelson and Sons); "Fairy Tales by Hans Christian Andersen," illustrated by E. V. B. (Sampson Low, Marston and Co.); "Raphael of Urbino and his Father," by J. D. Passavant (Macmillan and Co.); "The Household Robinson Crusoe" (T. Nelson and Sons); "The Prairie Bird," by the Hon. Charles A. Murray (G. Routledge and Sons); "Household Tales and Fairy Stories," with 380 Illustrations (Routledge); "A Book of Golden Deeds," illustrated by L. Frölich (Macmillan); "Boy Life among Indians," by F. R. Goulding (Routledge); "The Lady of Provence; or, Humbled and Healed," a Tale of the French Revolution, by A. L. O. E. (T. Nelson); "Nine Years Old," by the author of "When I was a Little Girl" (Macmillan); "Real Folks," by Mrs. Whitney, Author of "The Gayworthys" (Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.); "The Diamond Wedding," and other Poems, by Mrs. Newton Crosland (Houlston and Sons); "Dramatists of the Present Day," by Q. reprinted from the *Athenæum* (Chapman and Hall); "Sketches in the House of Commons," by a Silent Member (Provost and Co.).

THE FARM.

The severe frost which set in last week has been general throughout the country, and also on the Continent; snow has fallen on the hills, and nearly all outdoor operations, and sport also, have been stayed. The want of wet in the early part of the month on the drier soils delayed seeding; and, if the frost continues, it will be very detrimental, especially northward, where root-storing is not yet finished. Many acres of swedes are only partially gathered, the bulbs have for some time past ceased to swell, and are found to be very unequal. Better accounts are reported of mangolds, and most of the crops have been stored.

The Oakham show, which took place on Wednesday, is the opening exhibition for Christmas fat cattle. In class 1, for fat oxen, Colonel Reeve was first, and he also received the Uppingham school prizes; the second premium went to Mr. E. Wortley, who took the prize for cows in the open class. Mr. J. How was first with fat steers, Mr. Codling second; and among the young steers Lord Exeter's was first, the second prize going to Mr. J. J. Sharp, who was first with fat heifers, and two-year-olds as well. Mr. W. Faulkner received the prize for the best fat cow; Mr. Willis sent a good one from Yorkshire, but it was only commended. Lord Exeter took the extra stock prize. In Leicester sheep Lord Berners was first, and in Lincoln Mr. J. Byron, Sir W. Brooke taking second in both classes. The show of stock generally was excellent; and, good as many of the fat beasts were, we shall probably see finer specimens, both at Birmingham and Smithfield, where the classes are said to be well filled.

The Gloucestershire farmers had rather a proud time of it at their recent root and grain show at Cheltenham. A challenge was sent from Mr. Moss, of Essex, to show three samples of red and white wheat, grown in his county, against similar samples grown this year in Gloucestershire; after a very careful inspection, the Gloucestershire grain was decided to be the best. The 20 gs. cup for the best five acres of swedes went to Mr. W. Hartland, for a capital lot sown after wheat, and estimated at twenty-eight tons to the acre. The grain prize, in a degree, makes up for the recent decision at Kilmarnock, where some of the very finest Cheddar cheeses brought up from the district were adjudged, after a long trial, inferior to the cheeses made on the Cheddar system in Ayrshire.

At the late agricultural meetings in South Wales the preponderance of the coloured over the black or Castlemartin cattle was frequently observed, the shows being well filled, and no disease broke out. This is accounted for by the large number of English dealers who have visited the district and bought up the black cattle offered at high prices. Moreover, no capital has been expended on the native breeds to encourage their improvement, and the high-class farms are mostly stocked with shorthorns and Herefords. The Earl of Cawdor at Carmarthen, and Lord Dynevor and Mr. D. Pugh at Llandilo, carried off most of the stock premiums; but at the Llanboidy show some capital Castlemartin specimens were exhibited and received the prizes. As the Royal Society of England approach so near this region at their Cardiff meeting next year, it is hoped that some classes will be opened, and remunerative awards offered, that may encourage the breeders in this distant but excellent stock-rearing district.

The recent application to the Government concerning the inspection of Irish cattle has caused some slight murmurings across the Channel. Instances are quoted of the foot-and-mouth disease being imported with English stock, and of the perfect health of the cattle of Ireland when those of this country were diseased. The complaint there undoubtedly assumes a more virulent form, as it also does in the better-grazing districts of this country. It is, however, the traffic system that requires the most thorough investigation and improvement. The long exposure at the ports of landing after a hurried, crowded passage in the hot cattle-boats tends much to engender disease, and not only lower the market value of the animals, but impair the delicious flavour and nutritive qualities of the meat of these fine, young, grass-fed cattle.

Shorthorns from Canada sounds almost like coals to Newcastle. The Earl of Dunmore has, however, followed up the purchase of the Oxford cow and heifer from Mr. Cochrane of Montreal, last spring, by a further importation of three cows and five calves from the same breeder. These consist of the offspring of the two Duchess heifers (which Captain Gunter sold, last year, to Mr. Cochrane)—namely, a roan and a white heifer calf, both promising young animals, Eighth Maid of Oxford and her roan heifer calf, and four females of the Red Rose tribe. A singular history belongs to this family. Bred by Mr. Robert Colling, the first recorded dam, called the American cow, is said to have been sent out to America early in the present century; after ten years' location, she was brought home again, little the worse for her trip. She afterwards produced Red Rose 1st, which Mr. Bates bought. He bred the family for many years, and in 1834 sold Rose of Sharon to the Ohio Company. This cow and her descendants became the property of Mr. Abram Renick, Kentucky, who bred a large herd from them; and it is from this herd (reckoned one of the best and most uniform in the States) that the four Red Roses now imported are bred. They are deep red in colour, and possess the character of the Bates cattle (by which blood they have been chiefly crossed) with the substance of the Booth. It is rather singular that Lord Braybrooke's Thorndale Rose 2nd, the only pure specimen of the tribe in this country, has also just produced a roan heifer calf. They had a quick, rough voyage, but, under Mr. Beattie's management, were landed in excellent order, and reached their new home, near Stirling, in health and safety. The cost of the eight head and the expenses of importing amounted to over £4500. Mr. Cheney, of Gaddesby, also recently made an importation of three Oxford heifers and two bulls from Messrs. Walcott and Campbell's herd in New York State. These had not such good luck as the Canadian lot. Four of the animals were landed safely; but one, a roan prize heifer, became ill on the voyage, and, although landed, died at Southampton.

The contest for the vacant seat at Plymouth was decided on Wednesday. At the declaration of the poll the figures were—Mr. Bates (Conservative), 1753; Mr. Rooker (Liberal), 1511.

The ratepayers of Watford have decided to establish a library, under the Public Libraries Acts. The resolution was carried, at a meeting of ratepayers, by a majority of two thirds.

The Royal Commission of Inquiry into the loss of the Megera will consist of Lord Lawrence, chairman; Mr. Brewster, late Lord Chancellor of Ireland; Admiral Sir Michael Seymour; Sir F. Arrow, Deputy Master of the Trinity House; Mr. Rothery, Registrar of the Admiralty; and Mr. Thomas Chapman, Chairman of Lloyd's Shipping Register Committee.

The Representative Body of the Irish Episcopal Church has issued a general statement of its past and future requirements. A possible reduction of the working expenses of the Church to the extent of £200,000 a year is alluded to; but even if that large saving were effected, it is estimated that £360,000 per annum will have to be provided by voluntary subscriptions.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

As if to rebuke those who grudge even the very short "close time" fixed by the Jockey Club, frost has suddenly stepped in and brought the flat-racing season of 1871 to an abrupt close. Mr. Merry has been very unfortunate, for the first and second days of his meeting clashed with Mr. Frail's Shrewsbury fixture, and the Saturday—a day he would have had all to himself—was spoiled by the frost, and the races had to be declared null and void. On Monday the ground was still far too hard for steeplechasing; but as, under the present rule, "jumping" events may be postponed for an indefinite time, the programme will be run off (weather permitting) on Tuesday next, and a fresh card will be made up for the following day. It has been proved over and over again that adding a large sum of money is by no means an infallible recipe for producing a good race, so it was gratifying to see a field of twenty come out for the new Shropshire Handicap, which was worth nearly £1500. Oxonian (8 st. 2 lb.), the winner of the Shobdon Cup on the previous day, was made favourite; but a mile course is quite beyond his distance, and Cleveland (7 st. 5 lb.) won by a head from Gertrude (8 st. 2 lb.), after being nearly shut in when close home. General Peel's victory was exceedingly popular, more especially as Cleveland, though always believed to be a good horse, has hitherto performed in a very disappointing manner. Oxonian ran again over the same course in the Newport Cup, on the last day of the meeting, but never had the slightest chance with Thesaurus, to whom he attempted to concede 22 lb.

The first day at Warwick was not particularly interesting. Tabernacle added another victory to the three he gained at Liverpool, and Vestminster (11 st. 2 lb.) gained a head victory in the Great Autumn Welter Cup, after a tremendous finish with Bickerstaffe (10 st. 1 lb.), who was splendidly ridden by E. Martin, a very able jockey, who deserves far more mounts than he gets. Brick (12 st.) made his first appearance this season in the Warwick Steeplechase; but, though he fenced with all his usual cleverness, Redivivus, in receipt of 15 lb., proved far too much for him in the run in. The Great Midland Counties Handicap fell to Musket (8 st. 12 lb.). He won it last year with 20 lb. less on his back, and this performance confirms his reputation as one of the finest stayers in training, a somewhat singular fact when it is remembered that Toxophilite, his sire, was not possessed of much stamina. Shannon (8 st. 7 lb.) ran a great mare, but, of course, could not cope with the winner at only 5 lb. for the year; but Gertrude (7 st. 7 lb.), Indian Ocean (7 st.), and Sylva (6 st. 3 lb.), all of whom did pretty well at Shrewsbury, showed to no advantage in this race. The frost, to which we have previously alluded, stopped all sport on Saturday, and racing men must now occupy themselves with hunting, shooting, billiards, and other pursuits until the Lincoln bell calls them again into the field.

The number of horses now advertised for sale is an infallible sign of the end of the season, and scarcely a week passes without some performers of more or less note making their appearance at Albert-gate. On Monday last Messrs. Tattersall disposed of the entire stud of the late Mr. John Scott, and the seventeen—consisting of two sires, five brood mares, three horses in training, and seven yearlings and foals—were knocked down for 1829 gs., a very fair price when it is remembered that there were no really high-class animals among them. Pompadour (400 gs.), a nice two-year-old filly by Cape Flyaway from Too-Too, who has run pretty well this season, was the premier of the sale; and the three yearlings and one of the foals all fell to Mr. Peart's nod, and will return to Whitehall. Three of Mr. Bowes's horses were also sold, Mr. Lombard giving 810 gs. for Nobleman, who will probably have to get his price back in Queen's Plates; and the same gentleman bought Our Mary Ann (150 gs.), who, as well as Starter (210 gs.) and Blandford (130 gs.), was draughted from the Woodyates stable.

The Altcar Club was the principal coursing meeting of last week, and proved, in every way, a brilliant success. Hares were very strong and plentiful, so that nearly all the trials were thoroughly satisfactory; and, though some little exception was taken to one or two of Mr. Wentworth's decisions, yet on the last day there was not a single complaint. The Sefton Stakes, for dog puppies, secured ninety entries; and in the final course Turmoil, by Crossfell—Test, who recently won the Dog-Puppy Stakes at the Ridgway Club meeting, beat Master Randall, by Cauld Kail—Royalty. Turmoil's own sister, Talavera, carried off the Croxeth Stakes, for which the own sisters, Cripple and Canary, by Cauld Kail from the famous old Chloe, were in the last three. The latter was drawn, and Cripple succumbed to Talavera. The twenty-two which contested the Altcar Club Cup included many well-known greyhounds. Bacchanal and Law were beaten in their first course; while in the first ties Sea Cove, who appears to have lost all her form, was drawn after an undecided with Blarney, and Crosspatch was beaten by Letter T, who showed great cleverness. She did not run nearly so well on the following day, when Blarney beat her in the third ties, only, however, to succumb in his turn to Chameleon in the final course. The last named displayed great dash and brilliancy, and is, we hear, very likely to represent the Messrs. Lister in the Waterloo Cup. The Molyneux Stakes, which was also for all ages, was divided between Lady Grafton, by Master M'Fadden—Specie, and Bad Shot, by Armstrong Gun—Bad Grace. The remaining coursing meetings of last week were not of much general interest. We observe with pleasure that "Sandy," the well-known huntsman to the Carlisle otter-hounds, has been appointed slipper to several forthcoming fixtures, a post in which he is sure to distinguish himself, both from his wonderful activity and from the capital form he showed in this department last year.

The meetings of Chambers's and Winship's fours in America were so unsatisfactory, and there was so much feeling between the two crews, that a match was arranged between them immediately on their return to England. It was rowed on Wednesday last, on the Tyne, from the High-Level Bridge to Leamington Point, a distance of about four miles, and attracted an enormous number of spectators. Chambers's crew was the favourite, about 6 to 4 being laid on it. A capital start was effected, Chambers at once taking the lead, and at the end of about 200 yards his boat was nearly a length in front. Then Winship's men settled down to their work and began slowly to draw up; and for nearly a mile the contest was very exciting, each boat alternately holding a slight lead for a few strokes. A fine spurt by Winship now gave him a decided advantage, and at the Meadows House he took his opponent's water. The race was then virtually over, for Chambers's crew could never recover its lost ground, and was beaten by nearly four lengths. The winning four was composed of James Taylor, Joseph Sadler, Robert Bagnall, and Thomas Winship (stroke); while Chambers had James Percy, John Bright, and Harry Kelley behind him.

The winter meeting of the London Athletic Club took place at Lillie Bridge, on Saturday last, when a somewhat lengthy programme was run through. G. R. Johnston, the Civil Service sprint runner, unfortunately lost several yards at starting in his heat for the 120 yards' handicap, and could therefore only finish third; and the final heat fell to J. L. Stirling, well known as one of the most brilliant hurdle jumpers ever

seen, who showed a high turn of speed. W. Page, the quarter-mile champion of the club, ran wonderfully well in the 440 yards handicap, though none of his opponents could quite catch T. C. Collett, who made the best use of his long start. The half-mile match between Sydenham Dixon and H. Beeke proved somewhat disappointing, as the latter was evidently quite out of form, and was in trouble after going half the distance. The club's annual assault of arms came off at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Thursday, and the annual dinner on the 1st proximo will wind up a successful year.

The seventh match for the billiard championship was played at St. James's Hall, on Tuesday last, between W. Cook (the champion) and Joseph Bennett. There was a very large attendance, though, after Bennett's hollow defeat by Roberts, jun., few were prepared to see him make such a grand fight with Cook. The latter scored rapidly at first, and commenced his fourth hundred with a lead of nearly 150 points; but then Bennett gradually caught him, and at the interval the game was called "Bennett 510, Cook 457." Shortly after resuming play they became strictly level again, and from 530 to 800 it was a neck-and-neck race. Then Cook drew away, and appeared to be winning easily; but when his score was 919 against 833, Bennett put together a break of 93 (the largest by five points ever made on a small pocket table) by some of the most perfect play ever witnessed. His advantage was only momentary, however, for Cook followed with a nicely played 40, and shortly afterwards ran out with an unfinished 37, winning by 58 points. On the whole, we have seldom seen either man play better, though two or three easy strokes were missed by both; and with equal luck we fancy that Bennett would have just won, as in the early part of the game he missed some very difficult cannons by a mere hair's breadth, and the balls broke very badly for him. Roberts, jun., is the next challenger, and he will play Cook in about two months.

LAW AND POLICE.

The following is a complete list of the days appointed on the winter circuits of the Judges:—Circuit No. 1 (Mr. Justice Willes and Mr. Justice Blackburn): Manchester, Dec. 2; Liverpool, Dec. 12.—Circuit No. 2 (Baron Pigott): Leeds, Nov. 30; Durham, Dec. 8; Newcastle, Dec. 12; Carlisle, Dec. 15.—Circuit No. 3 (Mr. Justice Keating): Stafford, Dec. 2; Chester, Dec. 9; Shrewsbury, Dec. 13; Worcester, Dec. 16; Gloucester, Dec. 20.—Circuit No. 4 (Mr. Justice Lush): Cardiff, Nov. 29; Leicester, Dec. 5; Lincoln, Dec. 11; Derby, Dec. 14; Warwick, Dec. 18.—Circuit No. 5 (Baron Martin): Chelmsford, Dec. 2; Maidstone, Dec. 6; Winchester, Dec. 11; Exeter, Dec. 16; Lewes, Dec. 21.

Mr. Park, the senior Master of the Court of Common Pleas, died, on Tuesday night, in the seventieth year of his age, having held for nearly forty-five years the office of Prothonotary and Master of the Court.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Mr. James Stephen Judge of the Lincolnshire County Court, Circuit No. 17, in the room of the late Mr. Teed.

The hearing of the Tichborne case was once more resumed on Monday, when the following witnesses as to identification were called:—Jeremiah Cole, formerly in the Carabiniers; Hazeldine Sharpen, an architect and building surveyor at York, and who had known Tichborne in Australia sixteen years ago; William Davies, in the Carabiniers from 1849 to 1861; and Joseph Togwell, who was a farrier-major in the same regiment.—On Wednesday the witnesses called were George Tite, now a printer at Newark, and formerly in the Carabiniers; Thomas Marks, who remembered Tichborne in the same regiment; Charles Phillips, a warder in the Kent County Prison, who was once a sergeant-instructor of musketry in the Carabiniers; Elizabeth Inglis, wife of Robert Inglis, whose first husband was in Tichborne's regiment, and who spoke positively respecting the claimant's identity; William Robinson, a labourer at Coventry, who joined the Carabiniers in 1843; James Morley, a farmer and maltster at Hinton, who had been acquainted with the Tichborne family from his childhood; Thomas Parker, a corndealer near Alton; Robert Bromby, an officer of the Customs at Poole; and Joseph Smith, formerly a gardener in the service of Sir E. Doughty, and who knew Roger Tichborne before he joined the army.—The principal witness, on Wednesday, was Mr. Bulpitt, a Winchester banker, who advanced £500 to the claimant to prosecute his suit.—Mrs. Theresa Hussey (who had been in the service of Sir Edward Doughty, and had danced with Roger Tichborne at a servants' ball when she was fifteen) was the first witness on Thursday. She recognised the plaintiff at once by his eyebrows, forehead, and the upper part of his face. The Rev. R. Pinckney, who knew Mr. Tichborne in his younger days, was of opinion that the plaintiff was making allowance for age, strikingly like the young man he knew. Among the other witnesses were—Henry Crabbe, who had been gardener to Sir E. Doughty; Mrs. E. Stubbs, the wife of a farmer on the Tichborne property; John Burdon, who worked on the farm at Upton; Charlotte Holder, who had been seven years in the service of Sir E. Doughty, as a charwoman; and William Lillywhite, a shepherd. All these had known Roger Tichborne, and they believed the plaintiff and he were the same man.

The late heavy failure at Compton House, Liverpool, was, on Thursday week, before the Court of Bankruptcy. The unsecured liabilities are £307,706, and there is an asset account of £105,773. The liabilities on bills discounted are £115,056, of which £97,142 is expected to rank against the estate. The public examination stands adjourned to Feb. 8.

Yesterday week Vice-Chancellor Sir R. Malins ordered the petitions for the winding up of the European Assurance Company to stand over to Hilary Term. Mr. Bunyan and Mr. Patterson, actuaries, together with Mr. S. P. Low, chairman of the committee of bondholders, were appointed provisional liquidators.—On Monday the hearing of the application to substitute the name of Mr. Masters for that of Mr. Dering on the list of contributors of the European Bank was resumed and concluded. His Honour held that the transfer of 280 shares by Mr. Masters to his son-in-law and former journeyman, Mr. Dering, was a colourable and not a bonâ-fide transaction. The application was allowed, with costs.

An application by the Rev. James Kelly, for a re-hearing of his case in the Divorce Court, has been refused by Lord Penzance, Barons Channell and Pigott concurring.

The Court of Queen's Bench, by two Judges against one, decided yesterday week that it may be actionable to write of a publication that it is "silly" or "slangy." These terms were applied to an advertisement by Messrs. Jenner and Knewstubb, of their "Bag of Bags," in an article in the *Tomahawk*, a paper now no longer published. Messrs. Jenner and Knewstubb brought their action, and the case came before the Judges in banco on demurrer. The demurrer was overruled, and the case will therefore go for trial.

A breach-of-promise case was tried before Mr. Justice Blackburn on Tuesday. The plaintiff is a young lady living in

"Elysian Cottage, Parson's-green," and the defendant is a youthful chemist and druggist, who has £40 per annum and a taste for poetry. The unhappy youth had found time in the interval between his performances with the pestle-and-mortar to indite, in invisible ink, copies of verses to his lady-love. The jury fined him £250.

In the Dublin Court of Probate, last week, Mr. Baron Fitzgerald was occupied with a suit to establish the will of the late Mr. Egan, apothecary, of Tralee, who had bequeathed £12,000 for distribution among the Protestant and Roman Catholic poor of that town. The will was contested by John O'Connor and Anastasia O'Connor, his wife, the latter of whom claimed to be cousin of the wife of the deceased, who died without issue. Mr. Murphy, Q.C., who appeared for the defendants, examined the will and was satisfied that the contention of his clients could not be sustained. It was suggested that a small sum should be given to the defendants, who are indigent. A verdict was taken establishing the will.

The case of the two men Stenson and Hitchman came before the Court of Criminal Appeal last Saturday. The prisoners were convicted at the Middlesex Sessions of conspiring and obtaining money under false pretences, by causing a letter to be sent to country booksellers, purporting to be written by Lady Scott, ordering a copy of a work entitled "Sunshine and Shadow," of which the prisoner Hitchman was the author. An objection was taken at the trial that certain evidence had been improperly reserved, and hence the appeal. The Court affirmed the conviction.

The November Sessions of the Central Criminal Court was opened on Monday, with sixty-nine prisoners for trial. A true bill for wilful murder was found against the Rev. John Selby Watson. In the course of the day Thomas Joseph George, against whom a charge of perjury was brought several months ago, was found not guilty, the facts having been investigated by a Court of Equity. Charles Nutley was convicted of libelling Messrs. Batten, of Lower Thames-street, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.—On Tuesday Mr. John Hampden, the gentleman who believes that the world is flat, and who was charged some time ago with writing post-card libels on the editor of the *Field*, Mr. J. H. Walsh, pleaded guilty; and, having made a very ample apology to Mr. Walsh, he was, with consent of the prosecution, discharged, on finding one surety of £50, together with his own recognisances to that amount, to come up for judgment if called upon. Frances Augusta Payne was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for bigamy. George Fox, for sacrilege at Bromley-by-Bow, and William Fisher, for feloniously receiving a gold watch and chain, were each ordered to be kept in penal servitude for seven years, with police supervision for the same period after their liberation. William Trusson, on a charge of burglary, and Richard Bowden, a master mariner, on an accusation of assault and false imprisonment on the high seas, were acquitted. Percy Smith, fifteen, who had pleaded guilty to a forgery, was ordered to be imprisoned for a month.—The trial of the Rev. Mr. Watson for the murder of his wife was, on Wednesday morning, postponed to the December sessions. George Turner and Samuel Mills, charged respectively with arson and bigamy, were acquitted. Henry Jackson, for the offence of manslaughter under circumstances of great provocation, was sentenced to three days' imprisonment, to date from the opening of the session. Three men, named Henderson, Enever, and Weller, were convicted of conspiracy to obtain money by false pretences; Weller was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, and the others to two years of the same punishment. Susan King was found guilty of the manslaughter of an infant intrusted to her care, and was ordered to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for eighteen months.

A police-sergeant of the E division, who, while in a state of intoxication, had assaulted an inspector, was, on Monday, fined 40s. at Bow-street.—At the Mansion House, a young Frenchman, who described himself as the Vicomte de Fleurence, has been fined £100, or six months' imprisonment in default, for smuggling 16 lb. of tobacco and cigars.—A singular objection to work, on the part of a casual pauper, was made, on Monday, at the Greenwich Police Court. A man who had been admitted into the Lewisham Workhouse on Saturday night, and was provided with supper, bed, and breakfast, refused to assist in cleaning the ward on the following morning, on the ground that it was illegal to exact work from him on Sunday. The magistrate sent him to prison for twenty-one days, with hard labour.

Samuel Lilley and Bernard Regan, two ruffians recently convicted of robbery with violence, were flogged in Newgate on Saturday, receiving twenty-five and thirty lashes respectively.

A curious case of swindling was investigated, on Tuesday, at the Birmingham Police Court. A young woman named Mary Jane Kenneaux had obtained money from several persons by representing that she was Lord Arthur Clinton in disguise. She described the manner in which he (or she) escaped burial; told them how chloroform was administered to her; how she could remember being placed in the coffin; how, at an opportune moment, she burst the lid off and made her escape, and was now obliged to keep her name secret until the expiration of a certain period of time, in order to get free of punishment. She was committed for trial.

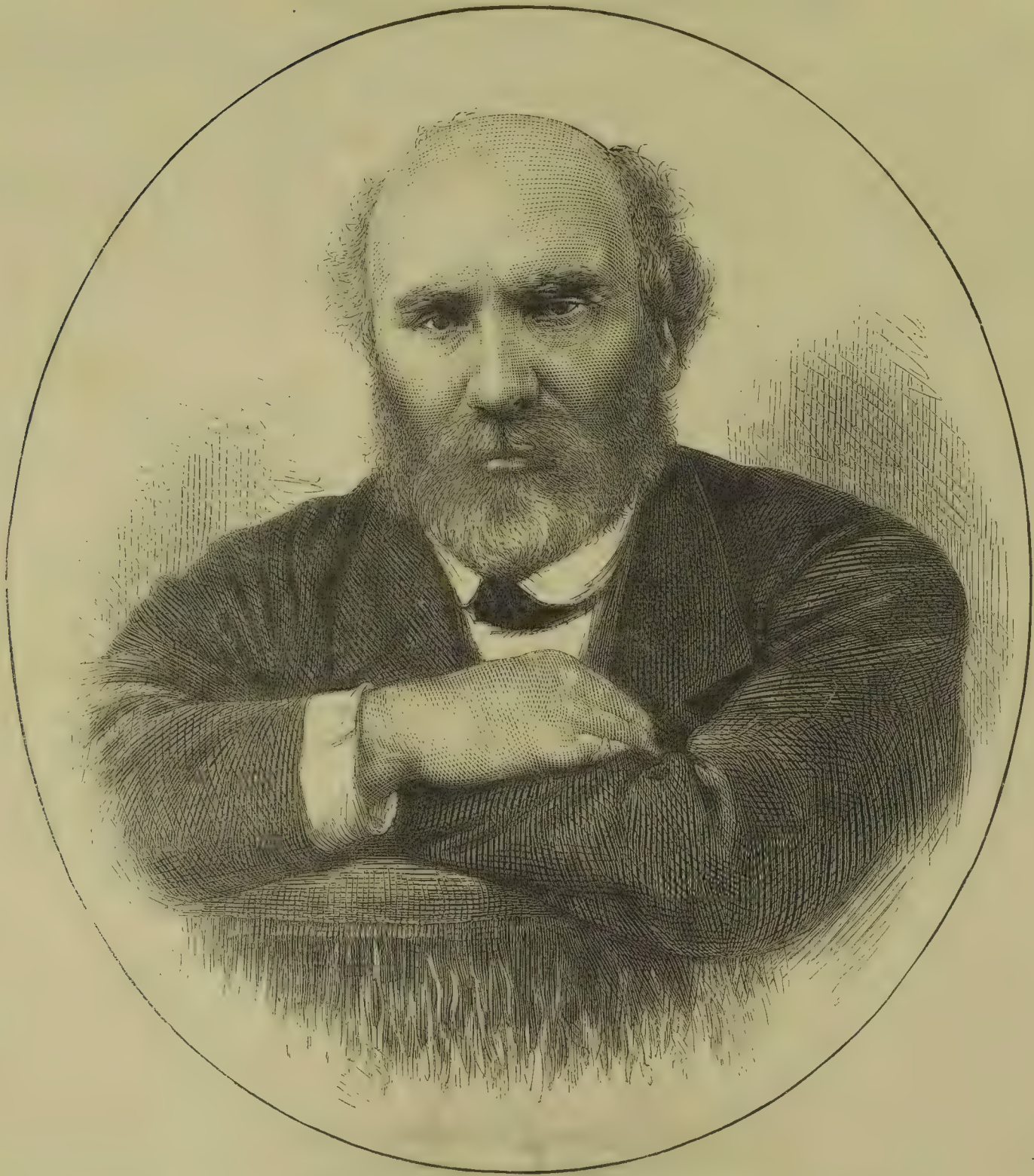
FESTIVITIES AT DUFF HOUSE.

The eldest son and heir of the Earl of Fife, Alexander William George Duff, Viscount Macduff, having come of age last year, the event was celebrated with agreeable festivities at Duff House, near Banff, on Friday, the 10th inst. That day was the young nobleman's twenty-second birthday; but the festival had been postponed from his twenty-first because of the lamented death of the Countess of Fife. This ancient family is descended in a direct line from the identical Macduff, the eighth hereditary Thane and first Earl of Fife, who contributed to the overthrow of the usurper Macbeth and to the accession of King Malcolm Canmore, in the middle of the eleventh century. The earldom was conferred on Macduff, by Malcolm, in 1061, as is noted by Shakspeare, who makes the victorious King say, on the field of battle:—

My thanes and kinsmen,
Henceforth be earls, the first that ever Scotland
In such an honour nam'd.

The antiquity of these Duffs, or Macduffs, is traced more than two centuries farther back, to a chieftain who, about the year 834, aided Kenneth II., King of the Scots, to repel the attacks of his enemies, the Picts, and was rewarded by a gift of the lands between the Forth on the south, the Tay and Erne on the north, and from Clackmannan on the west, to the sea-shore.

The proceedings at Banff commenced with a dinner given by the tenantry of the Fife estates to Lord Macduff; but this entertainment took place in a temporary dining-hall erected on the lawn in front of Duff House. The hall was 110 ft. long, 60 ft. wide, and 31 ft.



SIR W. STIRLING MAXWELL OF KEIR, BART., LORD RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.



DUFF HOUSE, NEAR BANFF, THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF FIFE.

high, with arches on each side dividing it into three sections. The roof and walls were covered with evergreens; the arches and pillars were decorated with leaves, flowers, and white and red berries; and there was an ample display of flags and banners, and of the Duff tartan, with ornamental devices of gas flame. Five hundred persons sat down to dinner, the chairman being Provost Wood, of Banff. The health of Lord Macduff was proposed by Lord Kintore, and the young nobleman returned thanks in a sincere and straightforward speech. The health of his father, the Earl of Fife, was next given by Provost Wood, and the Earl replied in the same spirit. A similar compliment was paid to his brother, the Hon. George Skene Duff, the Marquis and Marchioness Townshend, Lord and Lady Dupplin, and other relatives of this family. Sir George Macpherson Grant, Sir G. Abercromby, and Mr. Dingwall Fordyce, M.P., were among the speakers. The dinner was followed by a display of fireworks and a ball given by Lord Fife in the same building, where nearly a thousand ladies and gentlemen were assembled. Next day the Provost and Town Council of Banff presented Lord Macduff with the freedom of the borough. On the Monday Lord Fife gave a ball at the Assembly Rooms, Elgin, to his Morayshire tenants and their families. There were also dinners for the poor and treats for school children.

SIR W. STIRLING MAXWELL, BART.

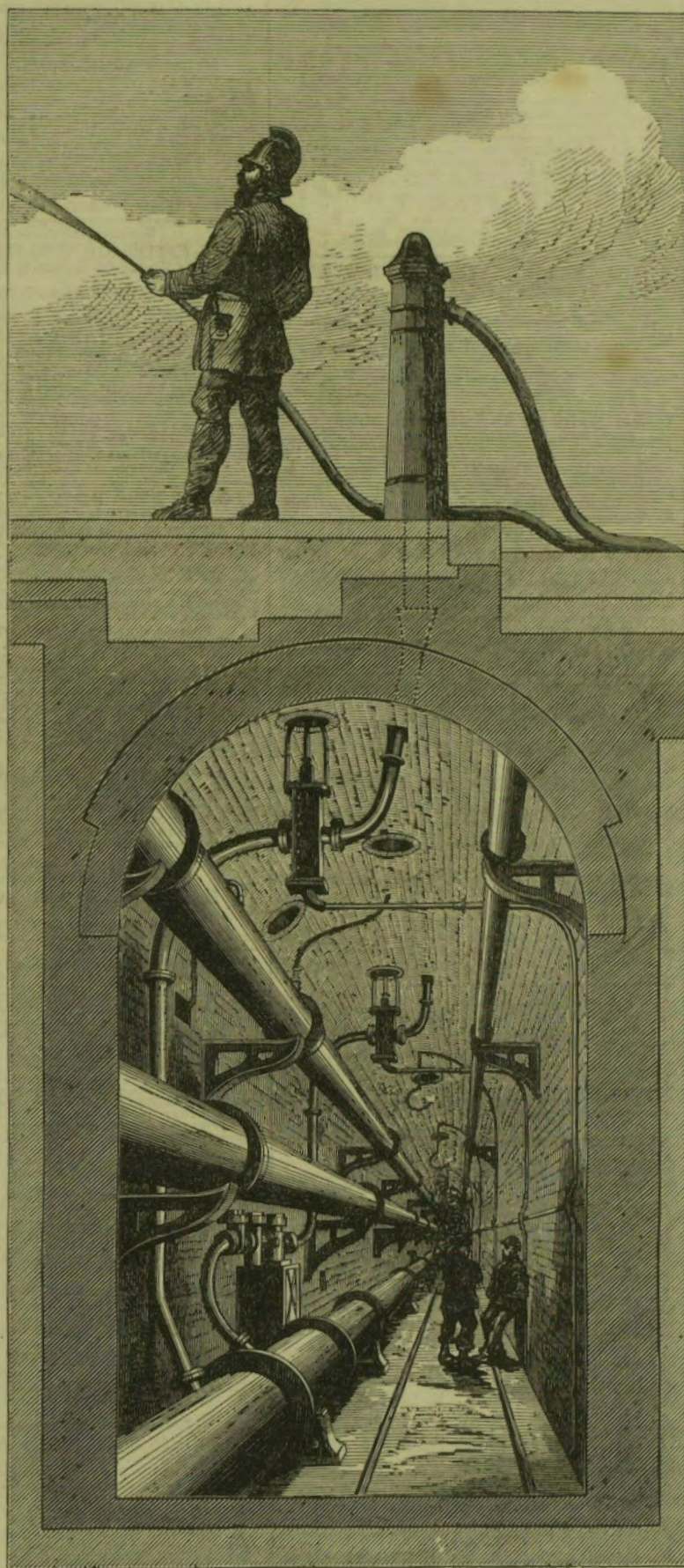
The newly-elected Lord Rector of the University of Edinburgh, Sir William Stirling Maxwell, of Pollock and Keir, Bart., is a gentleman of ancient and renowned lineage in Scotland, as well as a scholar and author of good reputation in the departments of historical biography and the criticism of literature and the fine arts. He has also sat in the House of Commons, and has long been an influential member of the Conservative party in North Britain. He was born, in 1818, at Kenmuir, near Glasgow, the only son of Mr. Archibald Stirling, of Keir, Perthshire, who was the representative of an old and wealthy family. His mother was a daughter of Sir John Maxwell, Bart., of Pollock, Renfrewshire. Mr. William Stirling was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated as B.A. in 1839, and M.A. in 1843. He soon afterwards, having devoted his attention to the study of Spanish literature, history, and art, went to reside some time in France and in Spain, for the prosecution of those researches. In 1848 he published "Annals of the Artists of Spain," in three volumes, showing a great deal of taste and knowledge. But his next subject of literary occupation was the retirement of the Emperor Charles V. in the monastery of St. Yuste, which has been so often celebrated as the theme of moral philosophers in their reflections on the unsubstantial character of worldly pomp and power. Mr. Stirling's book on "The Cloister Life of Charles II.," which appeared in 1852, is a work of standard merit, the result not merely of diligent investigation and the judicial faculty of the historian, but of a true imaginative insight into the motives and passions of mankind. At the general Parliamentary election of July, 1852, Mr. Stirling was chosen M.P. for the county of Perth, and continued to represent the same constituency till the election of 1865. In that year, by the death of his maternal uncle, Sir John Maxwell, he became heir to the baronetcy, subject to the limitations in the patent of 1707, conferred upon one of his ancestors who had been a member of King William III.'s Council for Scotland, and had assisted to carry the union of the two kingdoms under Queen Anne. Mr. Stirling now took the name of Maxwell. The Maxwells were a distinguished family in Scotland so far back as the twelfth century, and one of them performed notable feats of chivalry at the battle of Otterburn, or Chevy Chase, in 1388, capturing Sir Ralph Percy, brother of Hotspur. The claim of Mr. Stirling-Maxwell to the title was contested on grounds of heraldic precedence, but was finally declared to be valid, and he

succeeded as ninth Baronet. In the same year, at Paris, he married Lady Anna Maria Leslie-Melville, a daughter of the eighth Earl of Leven and Melville, and he has two children. Sir William's last book was "Velasquez and his

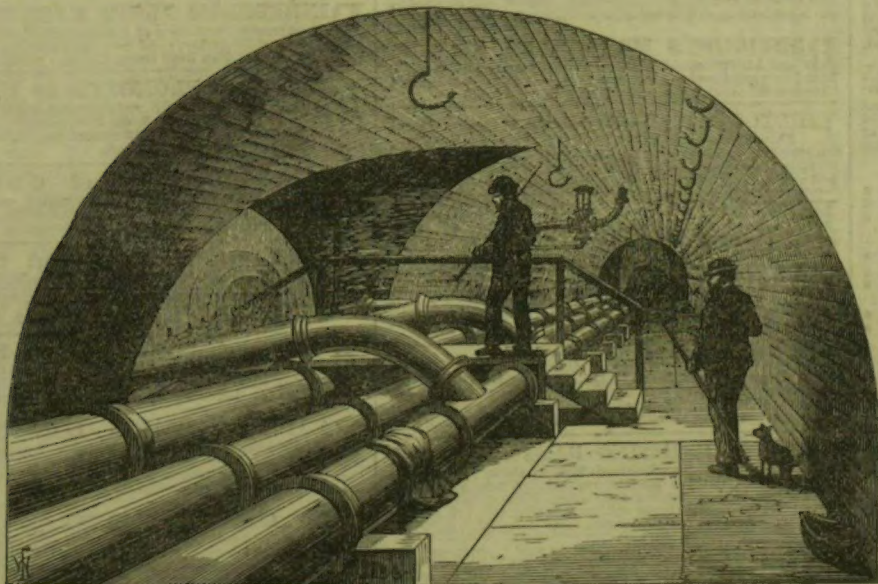
Works," published in 1855. He has contributed, we believe, to the quarterly reviews and other periodicals. At the Scott Centenary Festival in Edinburgh, on Aug. 9 of the present year, he delivered the most interesting and effective address that was heard on that occasion.

HOLBORN VIADUCT SUBWAYS.

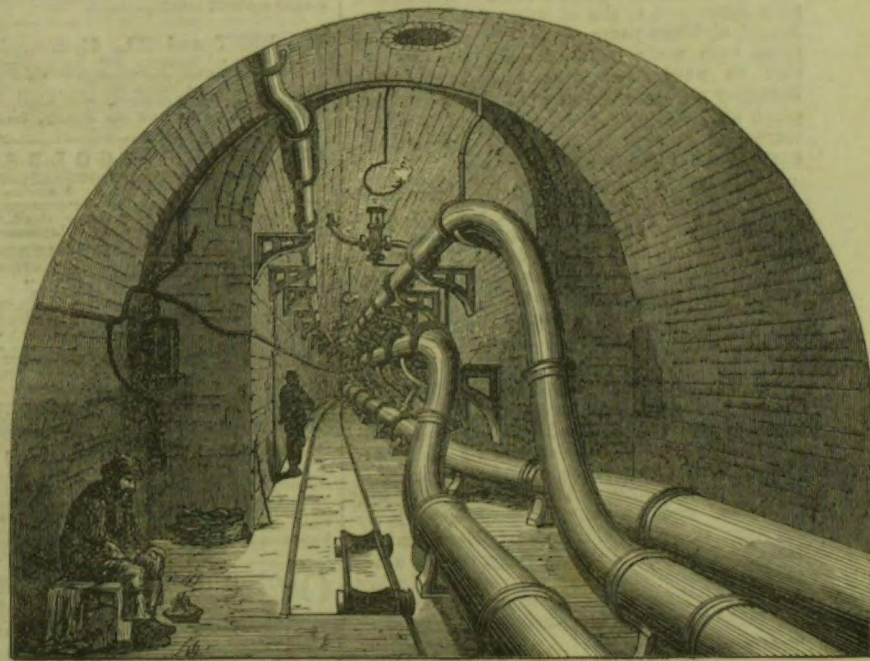
In the construction of the Holborn Valley Viaduct and the streets connected with it the Corporation of London determined to introduce subways for gas, water, and telegraph pipes, and thus to prevent the breaking up of the road surface, which is so often necessary with the ordinary system of placing them in the ground beneath the public way. As a means of conveying water, subways have for some years been used in Paris, and more recently in London. They were first introduced here in the construction of Southwark-street, from Blackfriars-road to the Borough. The conveyance of gas, however, requires special arrangements for ventilation to prevent the risk of explosion, and the subways under the Holborn Viaduct are believed to be the first constructed with a view to their safety when used for this purpose. The arrangements must here be explained. In the Holborn Viaduct there is a subway, 7 ft. wide and 11 ft. 6 in. high, on each side of the road, running between the great arches which carry the roadway and the house vaults which support each footway. The subways are immediately above the sewers, and are well drained, floored with large slabs of York stone, and lined with light gault bricks. In each subway a 14-inch main pipe of the New River Company is carried by iron chains near to the wall nearest the frontage of the houses, and above it 10-inch gas mains, belonging to the City of London and Great Central Gas Companies, are supported on iron brackets projecting from the wall; on the opposite side of the subway a pipe containing the telegraph wires is carried in a similar way. All the pipes are so fixed that workmen can easily examine and repair the joints; and, in anticipation of the new buildings, junctions with the gas and water pipes have been made for each house; from these junctions the pipes will be conducted through holes formed in the sides of the subways and communicating with the house vaults. Branch pipes are laid on from the subways to the street watering-posts and to the fire hydrants in the streets, and gas is laid on to the street lamps. All the usual valves, meters, and other apparatus are accessible within the subway itself. Rails are laid along the floor of each subway, on which runs a travelling crane, to facilitate the removal and fixing of the gas and water mains. The subways are ventilated by means of small circular gratings fixed in the footways along the centre of each subway, and by flues which run up the party walls of the houses and terminate above the roofs. Every street lamp and every post along the edge of the footways communicates also with the subways, and is so perforated as to act as an efficient ventilator. Wherever practicable, the doors of entrance are also constructed of open ironwork. Hitherto the ventilation has been perfectly efficient, and no danger is apprehended from the use of naked lights or from the gas jets by which the subways are lighted at times of inspection. One portion of the viaduct subways, between Farringdon-road and Shoe-lane, has been lighted by means of Hyatt's patent illuminator, an American invention introduced into this country by Mr. Haywood, the engineer of the Commissioners of Sewers, who designed the Holborn Viaduct. It consists of a large frame of cast iron, glazed with thick bosses of glass, let into the footways at intervals over the crown of the arch of each subway, forming a very efficient means of lighting. In Charterhouse-street, Snow-hill, and in the other subsidiary streets there is but one subway, of a lower form, 12 ft. wide and 7 ft. 6 in. high, running under the centre of the roadway. In these the pipes are laid on dwarf walls along each side of the central pathway. In all other respects the arrangements are as nearly similar to those already detailed as the circumstances would allow.



HOLBORN VALLEY VIADUCT: SECTION OF SUBWAY ON EACH SIDE.



SECTION OF SUBWAY NORTH SIDE, AT JUNCTION OF CHARTERHOUSE-STREET.



SECTION OF SUBWAY, SOUTH SIDE, AT WEST END OF VIADUCT

TWO NEW CANTATAS.

These works—produced, on Wednesday evening, at St. James's Hall, for the first time in public—are each the composition of an amateur. First in order of performance was "The Knights of the Cross," the music by Mr. Frederick Clay, the words by Mr. R. Reece. The piece was originally written for the Civil Service Musical Society, the choruses being for male voices only. The text, which conveys no connected narrative, consists merely of "two contrastive (*sic*) scenes suggestive of the characteristic sentiments of Christian and Pagan before one of the important engagements during the third Crusade." The music throughout bears traces of amateur workmanship, and is so largely reflective of the style, and even the phrases, of M. Gounod that it can scarcely be dealt with seriously as composition. The most effective number was a demonstrative bass song, "Say, whose is the standard," capably sung by Mr. L. Thomas, and encored. Far better than this is the tenor serenade, "Shine, tender dawn of day" (very well given by Mr. E. Lloyd), in which the reflection of M. Gounod, particularly in the instrumental accompaniments is very palpable; as also in the orchestral writing in the opening prelude, and an inter mediate symphony. One of the pieces most applauded was the chorus mixed with dance music; and this number brings to mind Beethoven's chorus of dervishes and Mendelssohn's "Walpurgis Night." Other portions of the cantata call for no remark, except the final chorus, in which M. Gounod is again reflected with much fidelity. Some incidental recitatives were delivered with much earnestness by Mr. Reed Larwill.

The second of the works referred to is entitled "A Pastorale," and is the composition of the Hon. Seymour Egerton, to words by Mrs. Freake. Mr. Egerton has long been known as a practical musician—an amateur violinist of considerable skill—who has recently emerged from the ranks of the dilettanti by his appointment to the important public office of Acting Superintendent of Music at the Royal Albert Hall—and now he has offered himself to criticism as a composer. Mr. Egerton's cantata is an illustration of the seasons, commencing with winter, and including soprano, contralto, and tenor airs and recitatives, two trios, and choruses for mixed voices. Here again we encounter strong reminiscences of M. Gounod, with still greater occasional reflection of Mendelssohn, together with an excessive reiteration of phrases, and an over-prolongation of the separate movements that become very wearisome when unallied to originality or fancy. As in the other cantata, each portion was loudly applauded by a friendly audience—the most successful pieces in Mr. Egerton's work having been the soprano air, "Streams o'er verdant meadows flowing;" that for tenor, "Summer comes;" that for contralto, "Stillness slumbers;" and a rather pretty chorus, "On a rosy cloud." The latter—curiously short in comparison with the other pieces—owed its principal effects, and an encore, to an obligato pianoforte part, finely played by Mr. Franklin Taylor.

That the solo music was efficiently sung may be inferred from the names of the singers—Miss Blanche Cole, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, and Mr. Vernon Rigby—Miss Bailey having ably co-operated in one of the trios for female voices. Both cantatas had the advantage of an excellent orchestra of eighty of our best instrumentalists, led by Mr. Sainton, and a choir of 200 voices (the St. Cecilia Choral Society); and Mr. Arthur Sullivan presided at the organ in a portion of the second work. Each of the amateur composers conducted his own production.

Earl Russell, who is at present residing at Cannes, has informed Mr. Dixon, M.P., that he will join the National Education League should it propose to make education in rate-aided schools unsectarian, but not secular.

Mr. Archibald Geikie requests that persons who may have any letters of the late Sir Roderick Murchison likely to be of use in the biography which Mr. Geikie is preparing will be so good as to lend them. Mr. Geikie's address is Ramsay Lodge, Edinburgh.

The iron paddle-steamer Ajax was wrecked near Mewstone, at the entrance of Plymouth Sound, eighteen years ago. No attempt has since been made to clear away the obstruction to navigation thus caused, and last Saturday morning the second fatal wreck took place on the engine of the Ajax. Three men were lost in this latter casualty, which occurred to a Plymouth fishing-boat.

A portrait of the late Mr. De Wilde, painted by Mr. J. Edgar Williams, has recently been presented to the Northampton Museum. The inscription on the frame is as follows:—"George James De Wilde, author, artist, humorist, and editor of the *Northampton Mercury* for upwards of forty years. Presented to the Northampton Museum by his admirers and friends, 1871."

On Sunday night the barque Albion, of Rostock, was wrecked on Kirkton Head, N.B. The Peterhead life-boat of the National Life-Boat Institution put off through a heavy sea and saved the vessel's crew of ten men. The following morning the society's life-boat, Algonquin and Eleanor, presented to it by Eleanor, Dowager Duchess of Northumberland, and stationed at Hauxley, on the coast of Northumberland, was the means, during stormy weather, of saving the crew, numbering eight men, from the wrecked brig Osborne, of Hartlepool.

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Waltz	—	"The Forget-me-not"	—	Gustave Lambert
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Waltz	—	"The Forget-me-not"	—	Gustave Lambert
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